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**SEASONS**

**1923-1924**









*Descriptive List*

*Established 1868*

# Brand's American Peonies

*Also Selected Varieties of New & Standard  
Peonies and Iris*

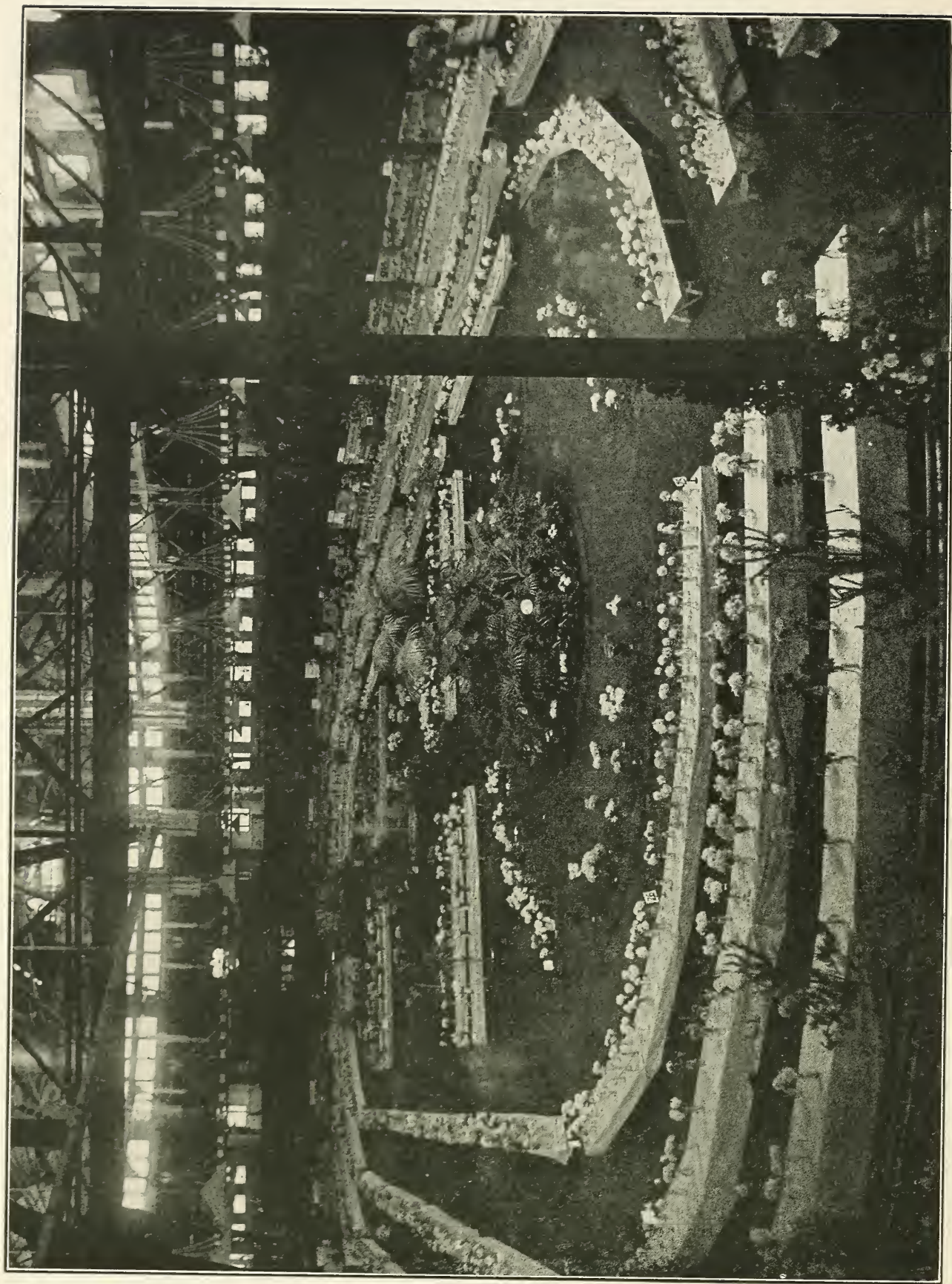


*Address All Orders and Communications to the*

**BRAND PEONY FARMS**

**FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA**





1923 American Peony Society Show  
Hippodrome Building  
St. Paul, Minn.



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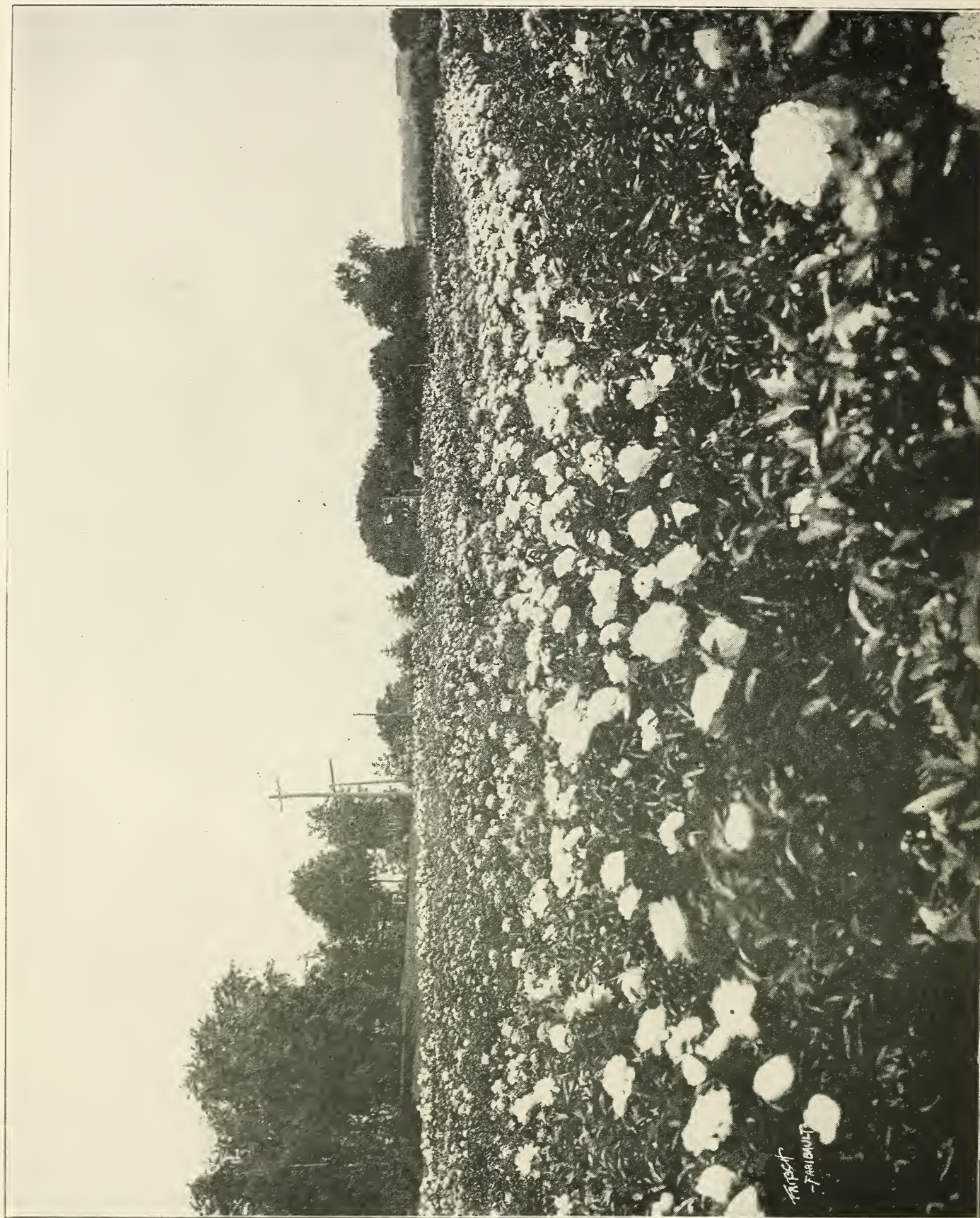
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A Bed of Three Year Old Plants, with Peony "Louisa Brand" in Foreground



# Foreword

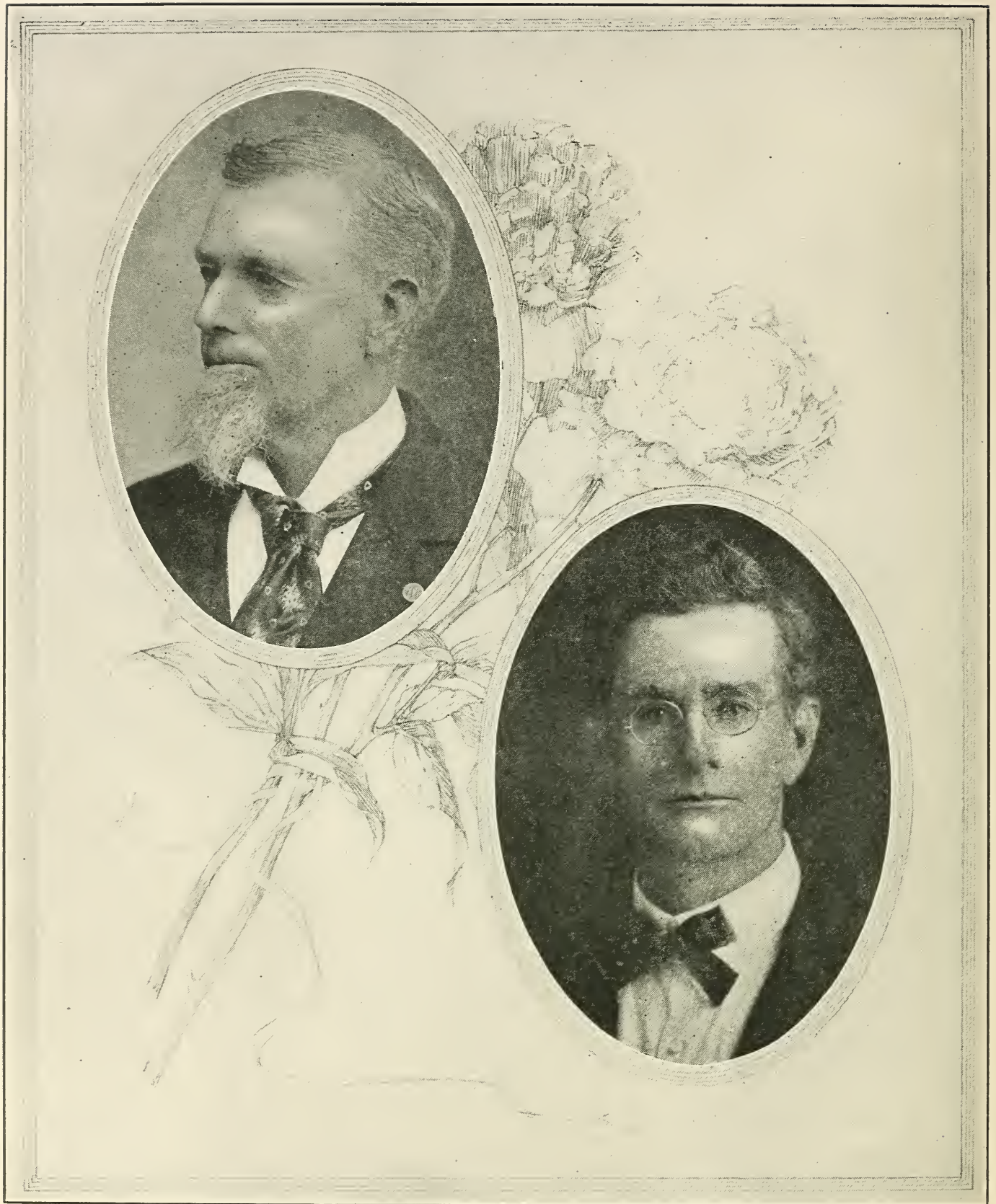


IN THIS BOOK we feel that we are offering a real Peony Manual. Father and son, we have grown Peonies for more than fifty years. We expect to be in the Peony business as long as we live. We want to do a big business for at least two reasons. In the first place, there is keen satisfaction in making a business successful in a financial way. But, also, we want to send our Peonies into as many homes as we can. We believe that flowers not only increase the value of the home in a pecuniary way, but, what is more important, they brighten the lives of those who live in it. So you see we want to win your confidence and hold it to the end. It has seemed to us that there could be no better way to do this than to give you in our catalog the best results of our half century of work with the Peony, and this is what we have tried to do.

In our 1918-1919 book we gave a brief account of our methods in the production of new varieties of Peonies. We were so much pleased by the general interest manifested in this work that we featured it in the 1920-1921 catalog. We have treated this subject and the other topics discussed in the last book still more fully in this one, and have introduced a number of new features.

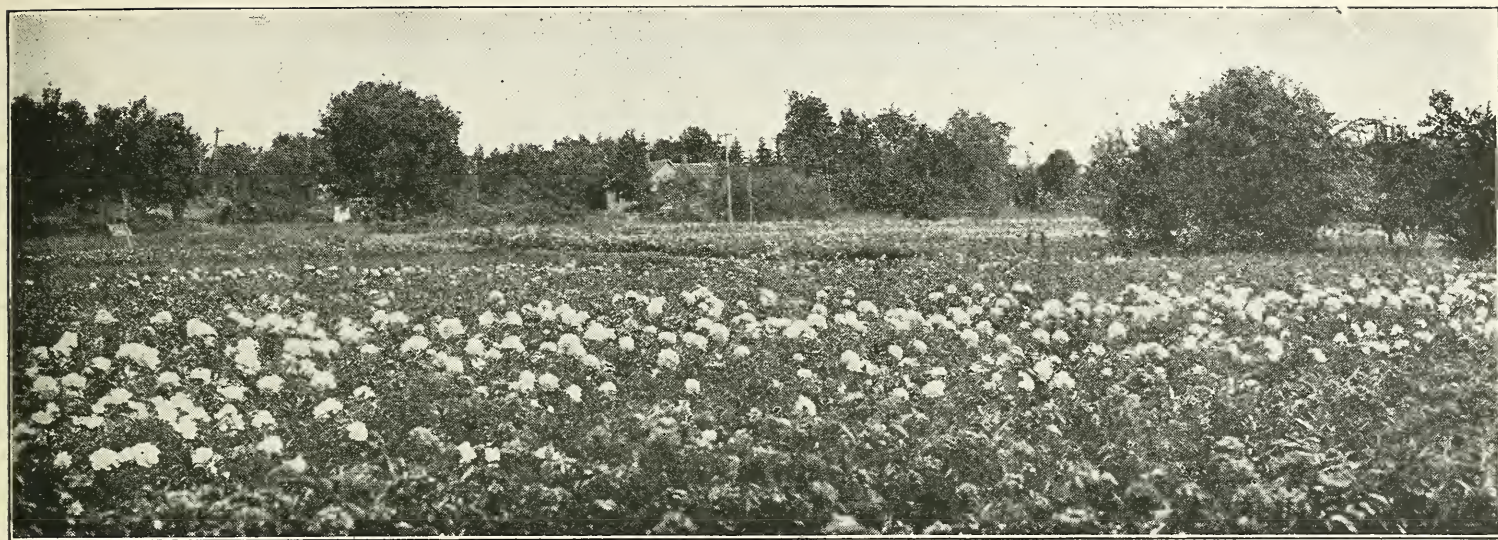
Among these are an account of the history of the modern Peony, two tables that we feel sure will prove of interest and practical value, and many additional pictures. We have also ventured to offer some suggestions to the Peony enthusiast who already has a considerable collection, as well as to the novice who is just becoming interested in growing Peonies. A table of contents is included. This we hope will be helpful in looking up special information.

As soon as the catalog comes from the printer, we shall send a copy free of charge to everyone who has sent us an order since 1919. We had decided to charge others the nominal sum of twenty-five cents for the book. Our mailing list includes the names of all who have ever sent to us for a catalog. Among these are some people, we are sure, who have no real interest in the Peony. We know of one person who sent for a book so that the children might cut out the pictures. Now we cannot afford to send so expensive a book broadcast. But we do want it to go wherever it will serve to create interest in the Peony, and we have decided to continue sending it free of charge to all who ask for it. Your copy has cost us fifty cents. We probably send out each year \$2,000.00 worth of books from which we never receive any return. Now if you do not decide to send us an order, will you not hand your catalog to some friend who is likely to be interested in it.



Two Generations in Brand Peonies





# Brand Peonies

## The Founders

**O.** F. BRAND, the founder of the Brand Nursery Company, established the first nursery in Minnesota in 1867. He carried on a general nursery business growing flowers as well as other nursery stock. Among these, Peonies had a prominent place. During his first years as a nurseryman he gave much time and study to the production of new varieties of fruit adapted to the rigors of our Minnesota climate. The knowledge and skill acquired in this work stood him in good stead in his later work as a Peony breeder. In 1910 he retired, and the business passed into the hands of his son, A. M. Brand.

After his retirement, he went to California, where he made his home until his death in January 1921. In the spring of 1920, the lure of the Peony was too much for him, and he returned to Minnesota for the blooming season.

When he began to raise seedlings in 1899 his only thought was to produce one variety which he should feel worthy to receive the name of his wife, Mary Brand. For this purpose he chose a fine red. On this last visit to the old

home, he found great satisfaction in gazing on the long rows of this beautiful variety, and in learning how it had carried the name of Mary Brand into every State in the Union, as well as into many foreign countries. He also took much pleasure in seeing the great fields of Peonies which had been developed as an outgrowth of the small beginnings, made so long ago, and especially he haunted the seedling beds where new varieties were being tested out.

A. M. Brand was, as a child, the companion and helper of his father in all his experiments. He has literally grown up with the Peonies. So far as this flower is concerned, he has always lived in a professional atmosphere. For twenty-two years he has grown the flower on a large scale. Probably there is no other man in America who is devoting the experience gained during a period of over forty years to the improvement of the Peony.

A president of the American Peony Society has called him one of the three best judges of Peonies in America. That he is generally recognized as an authority on the Peony is shown



by the number of Peony shows at which he has been chosen as judge. Twice he has served at shows held by the American Peony Society,—at Cleveland in 1918 and at London, Canada, in 1922. During the last season he served at the local shows held at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at Grand Forks, North Dakota, and at Minneapolis and Duluth, in Minnesota. In

fact he will find it necessary, in the future, to limit the time spent away from his own fields during the Peony season. He is often asked to write articles on his specialty for different publications. Extracts from some of these are given in the last pages of this book. They tell many facts about his work with the Peony in a fuller and more personal way than can be given in the body of the catalog. He is Vice-President of the American Peony Society.

### Our Claim

Now, there are all sorts of so-called “specialists” in every line of work. We believe that our claim to rank with the world’s best all-around Peony specialists is well founded.

It is now fifty-six years since we began to grow Peonies. For thirty-three years of that time we have been collecting the best varieties grown in Europe as well as America. But our claim to be true Peony specialists depends on the fact that we not only grow Peonies, but we *produce new varieties*. For twenty-three years we have been developing varieties that are being welcomed by Peony lovers everywhere. During all of these years, although we have conducted a general nursery business, the cultivation and development of the Peony have been a constantly increasing part of our work, and, at the same time, our chief pleasure.

We have now decided to close out our general nursery



O. F. Brand, Founder “Brand Peonies,” Comes from California to See Them Again



business, and to confine ourselves hereafter to work with the Peony, the Iris, and a few of the choicest shrubs and ornamentals. We have hesitated about giving up the name, The Brand Nursery Company, under which we have operated since 1867. But many considerations have decided us to make the change. Among them are our growing absorption in our work with the Peony, the rapid increase of public interest in the flower, and the fact

that the work of producing new Peonies, if carried on in the right way, is too exacting to admit of a divided interest.

We have thus decided to assume the name of The Brand Peony Farms, and shall hereafter operate under it. Our Peony fields will be scattered over our different farms, the location being changed from year to year in order to give them the advantage of new soil. The rest of our land will be rented out.

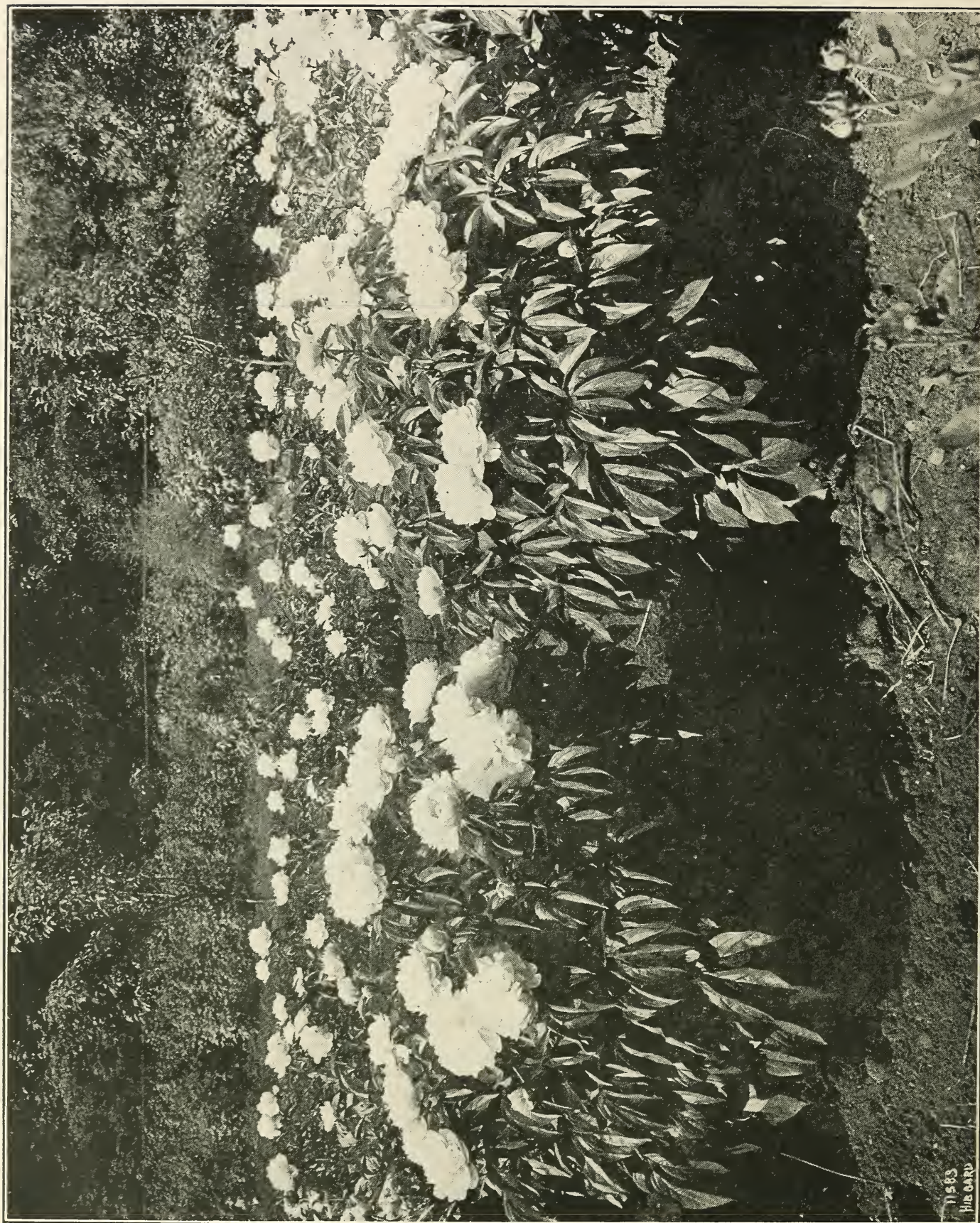


### Home of the Brand Peonies

The home of the "Brand Peonies" is Faribault, Minnesota, fifty miles due south of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Our gardens are situated at the eastern edge of the city on the high hills that rise abruptly from the bank of the Straight River. To the east, the hills, rising still higher, form the background for our great fields of Peonies. To the south and west is spread out a broad and varied scene. In the

immediate foreground circles the wooded picturesque valley of the river, along which is built our attractive little city, with its pleasant homes and numerous public institutions. Beyond, stretches mile upon mile of prairie, dotted with natural and artificial groves and quiet lakes. The limit of our view is marked by a spur of the Great Woods, which forms a broken sky line.





FRANCIS WILLARD, on Three Year old Plants

1183  
WILLARD





The First  
Brand Peonies"

Our 1904  
Seedling Bed

## How Brand Peonies Are Produced

### Fundamental Ideas—

We wish first of all to emphasize the point that there is nothing mysterious about our work. It is based upon a few facts, which, if not already known to the reader, are easily understood.

For example, everyone knows that the peony may be propagated by root division; that is, that if a new plant of Festiva Maxima is wanted, it may be produced by cutting from an old clump a division consisting of a portion of the root with a part of the crown adhering. But some persons may not know that a new plant of Festiva Maxima cannot be produced also by planting seed from this variety. But the fact is that the modern peony is the product of many crosses, and so does not "come true" from seed. That is, even if plants of a single variety are so isolated that they cannot be fertilized by the pollen from another variety and the seeds produced are planted, the seedlings resulting will give flowers that vary widely in color and form. The plants themselves will differ in color of foliage, habits of growth, etc. Every one of the seedlings may be inferior to the parent stock; but, on the other hand, one or more may prove superior to it in some important characteristic at least. Thus we see that, although seeds cannot be used in the propagating of old varieties, they are the essential thing in the production of new sorts.

Now, if different varieties are grown side by side, wind, bees, and butterflies will carry pollen from bloom to bloom, and thus bring about cross pollenization. The seeds thus produced will, of course, bear much greater possibilities of variation than those produced by a single variety. And if the parent stocks are fine varieties, their descendants are more likely to be worth while than are the descendants of common stock.

Now for the story of how we apply the facts just given to the production of Brand Peonies. It must be remembered throughout that what we are after is a new combination of desirable characteristics, *a new peony as good as any yet produced, but different*. In following this account, we wish the reader to remember that we do not claim that our methods of handling seedlings are the only ones or even the best ones. They are, however, the ones we have found it most practical to employ.

### Choosing the Parent Stock—

Our first step is to set out a bed of plants to furnish seed for our venture. The varieties used are selected with great care. Each plant that is chosen must possess in clearly defined form one or more especially desirable characteristics, such as good color, fine form, or pleasing fragrance in the flower, or good habits of growth in the plant. Though we are especially anxious to secure doubles, no entirely double variety finds a place in the bed. Such flowers, possessing neither stamens nor pistils, cannot help in the production of seed.

### Cross Pollenization—

Having chosen our parent stock with such care, we leave the work of crossing for the most part to nature. In this way we work on a larger scale than we could if we depended on hand fertilization. We also get some combinations of characteristics that we could not have worked for. For, although we know the qualities that our parent plants themselves possess, we do not know what latent characteristics, inherited from their many ancestors, they may be able to transmit.





A "Baby" Seedling Bed

### Our Beds of Baby Seedlings—

We gather the pea-like seed produced by the pistillate varieties just as they have turned brown and the pods containing them are about to open. Since we have seedlings coming on continuously, we do not have to work for germination of the seed the first spring after planting, so we allow it to dry, and hold it until late fall.

In the meantime beds have been prepared; in general we make these four feet wide and sixty feet long. The surface is raised about six inches above surrounding soil, and sloped sufficiently to keep water from standing on it. The beds are covered by a light screen raised about eight feet from the ground.

The seed is sown broadcast over the bed about one

inch apart, and covered with two inches of soil. Just at the approach of winter, the bed is covered with a two-inch mulch of withered leaves, dry lawn clippings, or marsh hay.

The following spring this mulch is removed early and the beds are hand-weeded throughout the season. The seeds having been dried before planting, no germination takes place this first year. As the bed goes into the second winter a mulch is again applied. This is removed early the next spring.

With the coming of the first warm days of this second spring, germination occurs; and the little plants, almost blood red, begin to thrust their tiny heads through the soil. Within a week the entire bed is covered with a multitude of miniature peonies, and their journey of life has begun. (See above cut of our present "baby" bed.)



This yearling bed is kept hand weeded through the summer. By fall the little plants have established themselves, and if dug would be found to possess roots about the size of an eight-penny nail. When this bed goes into winter quarters, no mulch is applied. Even at this early age the little plants are thoroughly hardy and need no winter care. At the end of the following year, or the second year after germination, the plants have attained an average height of from six to eight inches.

We have at the present time more than 50,000 one and two-year-old seedlings in these screened beds. In the spring of 1920, as an experiment, we sowed seeds broadcast in two rows forty rods long and six inches wide. These we did not protect by a screen. By following this method we have secured with far less work a splendid stand of seedlings, which we shall transplant with those from the screened beds, into what we call a *first trial seedling bed*.

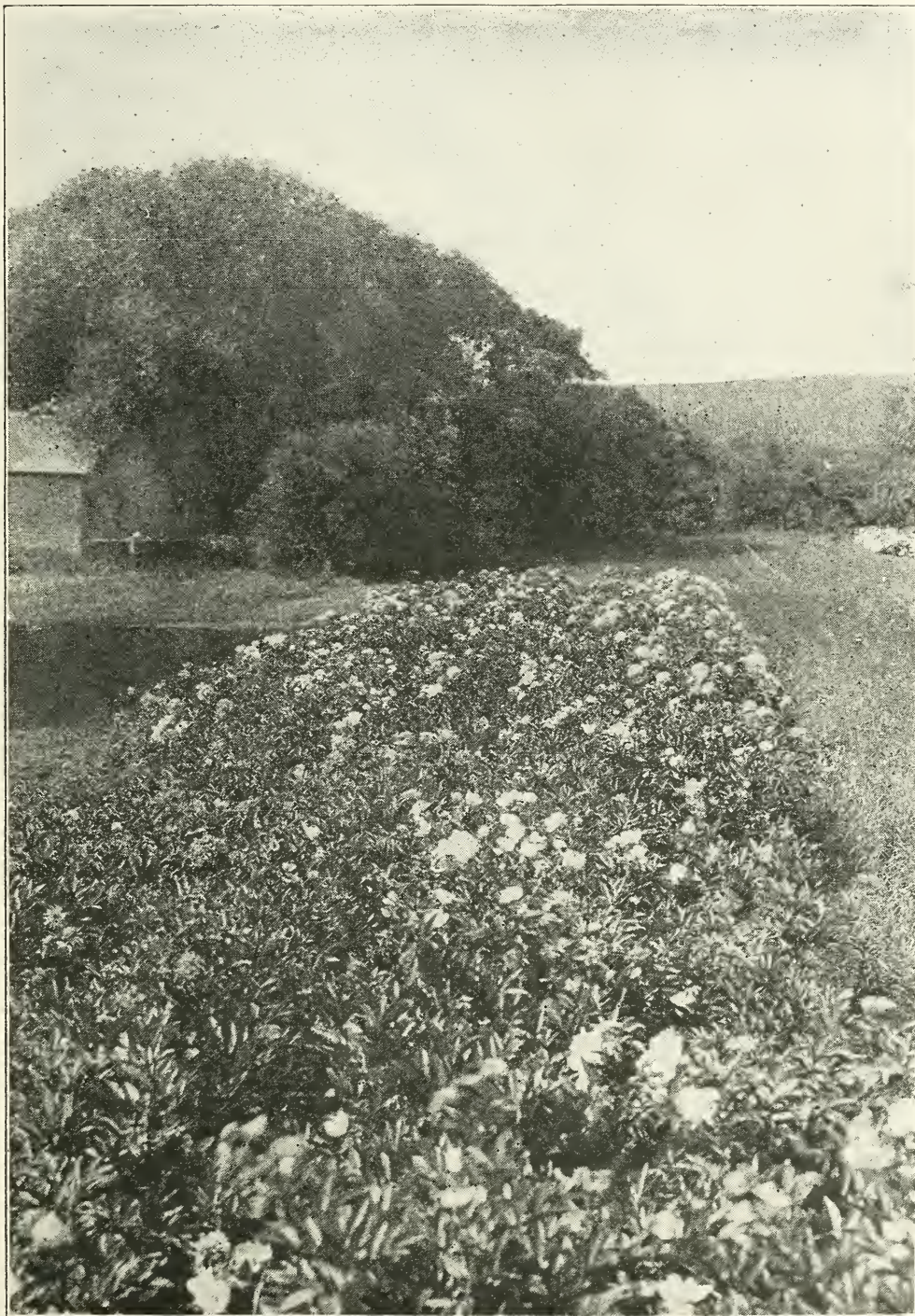
### **First Trial Seedling Bed—**

In September, as has been said, we lift our two-year-olds and remove them to the field. Here they are planted in long rows three and a half feet apart, with the plants from six to eight inches apart in the row. This gives room for thorough horse cultivation.

If the ground is dry when winter sets in, this new bed is mulched with coarse litter to keep the ground from heaving. Intense cultivation is continued throughout each growing season up to the time of blooming, which generally comes the third year after transplanting and the sixth year after the sowing of the seed.

Each year our bed of five-year-old seedlings is one of the most beautiful as well as most interesting spots in the nursery. Unlike our fields of named

varieties, it contains no neat rows and long stretches of a single color. Instead, the entire surface of the ground seems to be covered with a rich brocaded carpet, in which pink, rose, crimson, maroon, and white are here



One of Our First Trial Seedling Beds. Five Rows 20 Rods Long





One of Our Second Trial Seedling Beds. All Brand Seedlings.



blended and there contrasted in an indescribable fashion. The beauty of such a bed of seedlings strikes one at a glance, but it is not until one begins to examine the individual plants that the interesting fact about it is discovered. Search as you may among the thousands of plants you will find no two that bear flowers exactly alike. In fact the widest diversity in form as well as in color exists. For each of the thousands of seedlings is a new sort, and this is what makes this spot for us the chief center of interest in the whole nursery. For now comes the task of selecting from among all these plants the ones that give promise of being distinctly new and choice.

Unfortunately we have no very good picture of our very best seedling beds. However, although you might not guess it, the little panel on page 11 contains the picture of the first blooms of the varieties *Martha Bulloch*, *Longfellow*, *Judge Berry*, *Chestine Gowdy*, *Lora Dexheimer*, and *Phoebe Carey*. For here were growing the original plants from which these varieties have descended.

On page 13 is given a picture of another seedling bed of the same size. Though very beautiful, it is distinctly inferior to the first in both beauty and interest. It does not possess either its fullness of bloom or richness of color. We may as well confess that the quality of the bed is due to our own tendency to experiment. We thought perhaps inheritance was not so important a factor in the production of fine plants as we had considered it to be. So, for these plants, we selected the seeds at random instead of from carefully selected parent stock. We have learned our lesson.

### **Selection of Promising Varieties: The Brand Standard—**

Of all the plants raised even in our best beds, about ninety per cent revert to the original type of the peony and turn out singles. In the remaining ten per cent all types may be expected, from the slightly modified single, known as the Japanese, to the mammoth solid double forms.

During the blooming season the bed is gone through several times a day. Promising varieties are noted and so marked. Each day our interest is fresh, for we know we shall find new plants in bloom; and each day we say to ourselves, with the unfailing enthusiasm of the experimenter: Among these thousands of plants, all unlike, we must surely find a few, at least, different from any that the world has yet produced and as good as the best.

But years of work with the peony have made us exacting; and along with our hope goes the constantly deepening determination not to offer to the public as a Brand Peony any variety that does not approach our standard. Fortunately for the ordinary purchaser of peonies, this standard calls for many qualities that the amateur himself would not think of demanding.

A good peony, first of all, produces beautiful flowers, that is, flowers that have the charm that comes from good color and fine form. But peonies capable of producing such blooms fall into two classes: (1) those which develop the full beauty of the flower in the field under ordinary conditions, come good every year, bloom profusely and possess stems strong enough to support the flowers; (2) those that, in order to bring out their full beauty, must be developed in the house away from the sun and unfavorable weather conditions, or that produce good flowers only once in three or four years, or that give scanty bloom, or possess weak stems.

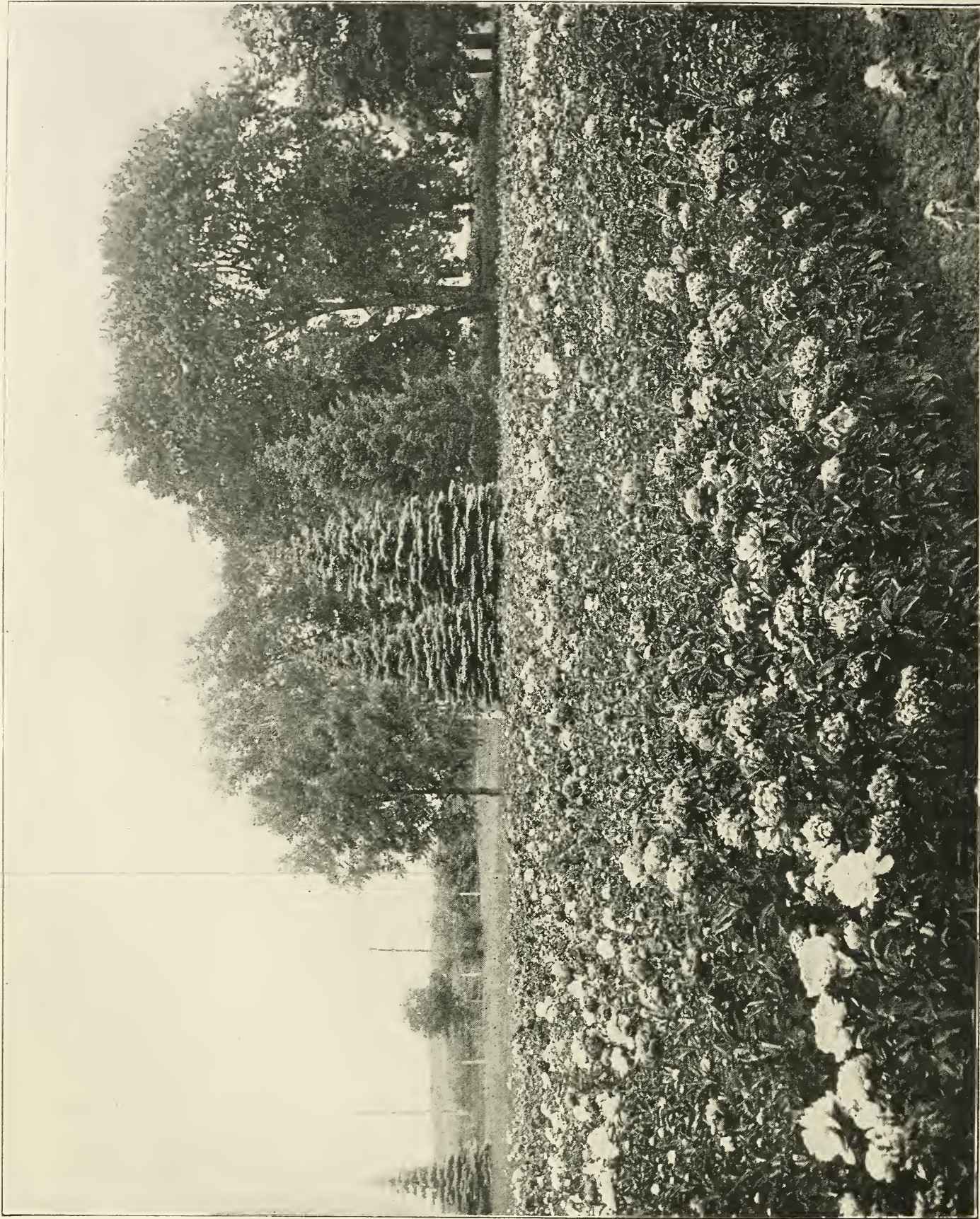
It goes without saying that the first class are the only desirable plants for the amateur; but he is unable to tell one from the other. Now Brand Peonies are for the most part selected from the first class. However, a few varieties having some defect, are saved for the collector who is willing to sacrifice some desirable characteristics for exceptional beauty of color or form.

The selection of peonies for form, or type, is largely a matter of personal taste. When we began this work, our own preference was for the solid double varieties, and we paid little attention to the singles. But, as the general interest in single flowers has increased, and our attention has been called to their delicate beauty, our own appreciation of their decorative possibilities has increased. We have now set to work along definite lines to produce as fine a strain of singles and those transitional types called Japanese as we have already given to the public in the double varieties. We are finding it more difficult to combine lasting color, substance, and strong, straight stems with fine form in these varieties than in the more solid forms. Hence our list of them is still short. Weak and crooked stems are a common fault of singles. With each variety in our short list, the flower is held erect on a strong, stiff stem.

### **Second Trial Seedling Bed—**

But our work is far from finished when we have marked a plant as "good" in the first trial bed. Years of experience have taught us that the blooming season of





One of Our Third Trial Seedling Beds. All Brand Seedlings.



a single year can furnish no real test of the various qualities of a really good peony. Many a seedling that we have at first marked as of exceptional promise has failed entirely in later seasons and different locations to come up to our expectations. Hence further tests must be provided.

In September all plants that have been marked in the first trial bed as likely to turn out good are lifted, then divided as closely as possible, and planted in a different soil, thus making what we call our Second Trial Seedling Bed. Here each little plant is given a space three and a half by two feet. This gives it room to develop and to show what qualities it possesses. This bed is given thorough horse cultivation for three years. The performance of the plant is carefully watched during this time. All sorts coming good two years out of three or exceptionally good one year are marked for a final test.

In 1920 we had a wonderfully fine bed in this stage of development. Its plants were of royal parentage and they lived up to it. We ourselves visited the bed many times a day, and our guests could hardly leave it for other attractions. From the 110 varieties growing in this bed we selected 27 that we felt to be fine enough and distinct enough to warrant a final trial. We are so impressed by the value of eight of these that we have already given them names.

### Third Trial Seedling Bed—

In that September, we lifted these 27 varieties, divided the plants again, and moved them to a still different soil. We consider that the varieties which come through the third year in this bed with a good record prove themselves worthy to be included in the list of "Brand Peonies," and they will be given distinguishing names. They will then be put upon the market if enough stock has been produced by the various divisions of roots which have already been made. If the reader has followed the seedling from the time of planting the seed to the time of its final selection for naming, he will see that twelve years have elapsed.

We have peonies, however, which we have kept on trial much longer than this. The seed of one sort, for example, was planted in 1899 and this variety was not put upon the market until 1922. The flowers of this variety are wonderfully beautiful, and so distinct that we feel it is destined to be the forerunner of a new type of peony. However, the blossoms come in clusters, the stem is not strong enough to support these, and for

many years the great masses of bloom lay all over the ground. In late years we have discovered that often a stem which is unable to support a cluster of blooms will hold up one flower well. So we have adopted the plan of disbudding such plants as this one, that is, of removing all but the central bud. This treatment has removed the last doubt in our minds about the future of this variety.

### The Development of Stock—

As has been said before, a variety of peony can be propagated only by the slow process of root division. Now with some of our new varieties we are able to accumulate enough stock to warrant us in putting them on the market by dividing the plants whenever they pass from one seedling bed to another. But with other varieties, root growth is very slow and we cannot offer them for sale for years after they have been named. Such varieties will always be rare and therefore expensive. Our Martha Bulloch is such a sort, and we are still often unable to supply the demand.

### Final Results—

During the twenty-three years that we have been raising seedlings, we have probably tested out 500,000 different sorts. Of all this number we now list but 40, and some of these, as we said, we do not consider to be first class in every respect. About 20 of them, however, we do believe must be admitted to the short list of the world's best peonies; and four or five of these are masterpieces. To this last number we expect to add eight of the varieties selected from our 1920 second trial bed. To some of our readers these results may seem small for so many years of work. But even if the work from beginning to end had not been full of pleasant excitement, and if only one best variety had passed the tests, we should have been repaid for our experiments. To have produced a *Martha Bulloch*, or an *Elizabeth Barrett Browning*, for example, is reward enough for the years of working and waiting.

---

Tamworth, N. H.: *Several hundred of the best varieties of peonies have entered my garden and all but forty have passed out. Among those I now grow, Martha Bulloch is the best rose pink. When all the wide petals are expanded except a few near the center, this variety is a giant pink rose in form, color, and perfume. There are few peonies that I want two of, but this variety is so fine that I enclose check for a second plant. You should charge more for it. If Kelway's Exquisite is worth twenty-five dollars, Martha Bulloch is worth fifty. It is very rare to get a really lovely peony that is at the same time robust.*—(Signed—William Rollins).



## History of One Brand Peony

Some who have lacked patience to read through the details of the general process of producing new varieties of flowers may be interested in the history of a single sort.

The original plant to which every *Martha Bulloch* peony in the world traces back was selected from one of our early seedling beds. The seed for this bed was planted in 1899 and germinated in the spring of 1901. The original *Martha Bulloch* plant produced its first flower in 1904. We marked it as a good late pink and watched it for two years in this original location.



"Martha Bulloch" and Little Hazel Kinney

In the fall of 1906 we lifted the plant, divided it into two plants and set them in a heavy clay loam. At the end of two years one of these was again lifted and made into two divisions. These two divisions were planted in a rather damp heavy black soil. In the fall of 1910 one of these was cut into six small divisions and these were moved a half mile away to a heavy clay soil. It all these locations the variety gave a good account of itself when well established, and we felt sure we had something good.

In 1913 the six plants last set, now three-year-olds, came strong and healthy with heavy stems bearing promising buds. At the time of the Annual Show of the Minnesota Horticultural Society, we were able to cut from these plants twenty-five blooms for exhibition. These flowers were shown in competition with the finest vase of *Therese* we have ever seen. Nevertheless, they took the first prize and were the sensation of the show.

We immediately began to propagate as rapidly as possible, but this variety makes root growth slowly and we are still often unable to supply the demand.

## Some New Brand Peonies

In the fall of 1907 a new bed of peony plants from which to save seed was set out. The plants for this bed were chosen with the greatest care by Mr. A. M. Brand. Each plant possessed at least one clearly defined characteristic which he especially desired to perpetuate. He has watched with the keenest interest the seedlings produced from the first lot of seeds gathered from the bed. In 1920, in the "Second Trial Seedling Bed," their performance surpassed his most sanguine expectations. As has been said, five varieties from this bed were then named. Three more varieties have since received names.

Most of the best varieties of the 1920 Second Trial Bed have been divided and placed in a third trial bed. At least two more will soon pass into the list of named sorts. These new peonies will be placed on the market as soon as sufficient stock has been worked up. Brief description of the new named sorts follows:



We have often been asked how we find names for all the peonies we send out. In the following accounts of our new peonies, we have explained the reason for some names. It has always been our practice to name our flowers for persons who have in some way made life happier and easier for us.



Our next catalog will have the description of a New Brand Peony named for this charming young lady.

**BLANCHE KING** (A. M. Brand 1922). Deep pink. This is the seedling exhibited at the 1922 show of the American Peony Society, held in London, Ontario, as No. 20-27. Flower large to very large. Stem strong and straight. Foliage clean. Plant medium to tall. Color a bright, glistening, deep pink. Petals broad, deep, and of splendid texture. When cut in the bud it develops into a wonderful show flower. Holds its color in the field. A splendid variety. Award of merit American Peony Society.

In the fall of 1919 a little black haired, black eyed girl of Canadian parentage, then just out of High School, came into our office to work. The year 1920 was a strenuous one with us. Our business unexpectedly nearly doubled and we were unable, because of the general shortage of help, to secure the help we needed. Our office force rose to the emergency; and, when that year's work was done, we felt that every person in the office deserved a Nobel prize. This not being in our power to grant, we did the best thing we could. We gave their names to peonies so beautiful that these names will be remembered by peony lovers as long as the best of the Brand peonies shall last.

**HAZEL KINNEY** (A. M. Brand). Delicate pink. Flowers large deep, rose type. Color a pure hydrangea pink. Petals broad and symmetrically arranged. Guard petals prominent. Plant medium height, foliage light green and clean. Midseason. Beautiful in form and color.

Eight years ago last January a little baby girl was born in the rooms where we now have our office. She was the daughter of my then partner. Our office girls who saw her when she

was but a few hours old informed me she was the prettiest baby they had ever seen. When in due course of time I came to see her I agreed with them. She grew into a strong, healthy girl; and as she first learned to walk, dressed in her little pink or blue jumpers, she used to come out into the office where her childish prattle and pretty ways endeared her to us all. It is this same little girl, then four years old, who appears with Martha Bulloch on page 18.

**VICTORY CHATEAU THIERRY** (A. M. Brand). Plant medium to dwarf. Foliage clean. Stems very strong and straight. Blossoms held perfectly erect. Blooms of immense size. A pure bright clear pink. Petals very broad, of great substance and symmetrically arranged around the center in rapidly enlarging concentric rings. Fragrance marked and pleasant. The most sensational peony to be produced in years. A wonder.

Occasionally there appears in a bed of seedling peonies some flower so beautiful, either in form or color or both, that the plant breeder recognizes at once a masterpiece. Such a flower was *Victory Chateau Thierry*. I first noticed its immense, pure, clean, pink buds just before they opened in the seed bed. The next morning I was up long before the sun to see the opened flower. And when my eyes rested upon the five immense blooms that were half opened that morning I realized that then and there a mile stone was passed in the history of the peony. When noon came and four of these great blooms were fully open I knew for a certainty that another peony, a great pink, had come to take its station with *Le Cygne*, *Solange*, *Therese*, and *Lady Alexandra Duff*. That fall the plant was lifted, divided into three small divisions and reset. The following June we cut the blooms from these yearling plants and exhibited them at the Minnesota State Horticultural Show, where it was awarded the first prize in the largest seedling class ever shown at this show. I have watched it every year since, and each year the flower seems better than the year before.

Just after the battle of Chateau Thierry was fought word came that in this battle were two brothers, Melvin and Anton Johnson. These were neighbor boys, and as little fellows had both worked among the Brand Peonies. Hence the name.



VICTORY CHATEAU THIERRY





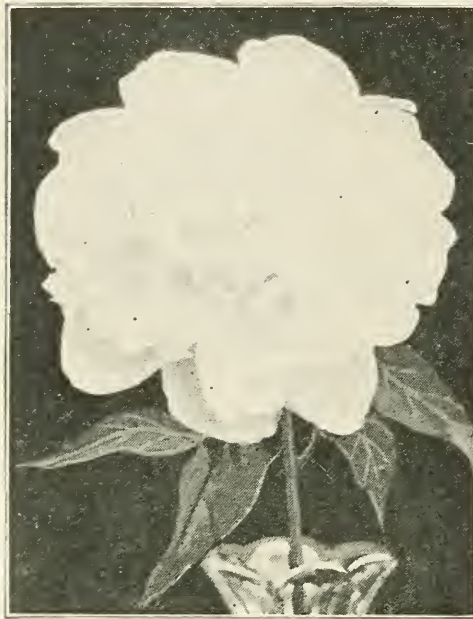
ELLA CHRISTIANSON

ELLA CHRISTIANSEN (A.M.Brand.) Pink. Plant tall and vigorous. Blooms large to very large. Color a soft cream pink, changing to a deeper pink at the center. Petals long, narrow, and somewhat loose. Very profuse bloomer. Shape of flower regular and pleasing to the eye. Flowers held fairly erect on good long stems. Midseason. Fragrance pleasant. Very fine.

Ella Christiansen is Mrs. Brand's youngest sister. I have known her ever

since she was a little girl and she has stood right by me through all these years. During the strenuous years of the war and ever since Ella has given us never-failing assistance in the peony business, and too much credit cannot be given her for the care she has exercised in our packing room in seeing that no mistakes are made in filling orders.

MRS. A. M. BRAND. (A. M. Brand.) Pure white. Flowers of immense size and of the purest white. Form of flower exquisite. Blossoms produced on tall, stout, clean, perfectly straight stems with clean light green foliage. An annual and profuse bloomer. Fragrant. Excep-



MRS. A. M. BRAND

tionally fine. Our best seedling to date. This seedling received the Gold Medal at the St. Paul National Show. Price \$50.00 per root. Delivery fall of 1925.

MRS. FRANK BEACH (A. M. Brand.) Plant of medium height. Flowers of very large size. Stem slender and graceful, but strong. Color a rich, intense creamy white shading to an orange pink cream at the center, the entire flower slowly fading to an absolutely pure white with no tracings of red. Very double and composed of a multitude of narrow pointed petals, growing shorter towards the center of the flower, thus giving a slightly cupped effect to the surface of the blooms. Must be disbudded. Very sweet rose fragrance. Extra choice.

MYRTLE GENTRY (A. M. Brand.) Immense flowers born on very stiff



MYRTLE GENTRY

stems that hold the great blooms well above the foliage. True rose type with great broad petals symmetrically arranged around the center in gradually enlarging circles. Opens a delicate deep cream heavily suffused with a vivid pink, and gradually fades in the field to an even deep creamy white. Very lasting as a cut flower, and as such retains its colors well. Pronounced rose fragrance. Very fine.



HAZEL KINNEY



MRS. FRANK BEACH



## Brand Seedlings and the 1922 American Peony Show

When the time for the 1922 Peony Show at London, Ontario arrived, we had made no exhibition of our flowers in any show since 1919, and we had never exhibited in the American Show. Moreover, we had no intention of exhibiting at London. The season for peony shows, following close upon the heels of the delivery season in our general nursery business, has found us with neither ambition nor time to prepare show flowers. And, too, in 1922 the hot, dry winds which had prevailed in the midst of the peony season had, we feared, destroyed the possibility of our making a creditable showing.

However, just before starting for London, Mr. Brand ran through the rows of seedlings and cut nine buds from nine different seedlings, hoping that he might get a few flowers to London to show to his friends. Many varieties were past their prime or not yet out. He placed these buds in water for two hours. Each bud was then

wrapped carefully in waxed paper and placed in a paper-lined wooden box about 12x18x4 inches. This box Mr. Brand carried onto the train and took with him into his berth. In the morning he reached Chicago and spent the afternoon riding around the city in an automobile, the box by his side. It accompanied Mr. Brand into his berth for a second night's trip, and in the morning reached London and was taken to the show room. Here it was opened and the stems of the flowers placed in water. Wrappings were taken from the flowers at about eleven o'clock, when the blooms opened out in perfect form, apparently unaffected by their long journey, Mr. Brand then decided to enter them in the seedling class. There were about sixty entries in this class. Of these seedlings five received special awards of merit; and of these five, three took the journey described in this little wooden box. These seedlings were *Blanche King*, *Hansina Brand*, and *Mrs. Frank Beach*.

## Prize Winners

The Brand Peonies have been exhibited three times at the Minnesota State Horticultural Society's Summer Meetings. They have won:

- 1905—1st, 2nd, and 3rd.
- 1913—1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.
- 1914—1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.

At the American Peony Show, Cleveland, Ohio, 1918, a first and a second prize were offered for the two best varieties introduced since 1910. Both of these prizes went to Brand Peonies:

- 1st Prize—*Chestine Gowdy*.
- 2nd Prize—*Phoebe Carey*.

These flowers were grown on plants sent by us into Ohio.

At the American Peony Show, London, Ontario, 1922, as has been said, five seedlings in a class of about sixty received awards of merit, and of these five, three were Brand seedlings:

- Hansina Brand*—Award of Special Merit.
- Mrs. Frank Beach*—Award of Special Merit.
- Blanche King*—Award of Special Merit.

That Brand Peonies are first class is further attested by the fact that they have won at the annual shows of the Northwestern Peony Association:

- 1915—Seedlings: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.
- 1916—Seedlings: 1st, 2nd, 3rd.
- 1919—Medium Pink: 1st, *Martha Bulloch*.

- Red: 1st, *Mary Brand*.
- Seedlings: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.

The seedlings which in 1919 received the first and second prizes created a sensation, and the judges left the matter open an hour before deciding which was the better and placing the ribbons. The one that finally received the first prize has been named *Victory Chateau Thierry*, and the other, *Myrtle Gentry*.

At the 1920 American Peony Show held at Reading, Penn., in the display of best 100 varieties awarded the Gold Medal were eight Brand varieties. And at the same show in the display of New Varieties awarded the Society's Silver Medal were 9 Brand varieties.

## Ratings of Brand Peonies in the Symposium of the American Peony Society

In 1918 members of the American Peony Association were asked to indicate their estimate of 580 varieties of peonies by giving each a mark on a scale ranging from one to ten. In the final summing up of returns, 26 varieties were found to have received an average of

9 or over, and three of these were Brand Peonies. One *Elizabeth Barrett Browning*, received fourth place. We consider this a very good showing, since most of our best varieties have been on the market a very short time. Estimates must thus have been made from blooms fur-

nished by very young plants, which are often not true to type. We ourselves did not vote.

In 1922 a second symposium was taken by the society, in which nearly 700 varieties received ratings. In this vote only 22 of the varieties receiving 20 votes or more had an average of 9 or better. Of these 22 which were ranked as the world's choicest, four, or almost one-fifth, were Brand Varieties. These were *E. B. Browning*, *Martha Bulloch*, *Frances Willard*, and *Longfellow*. Five Brand varieties had a grade of over 8. These were *Chestine Gowdy*, *Judge Berry*, *Lora Dexheimer*, *Mary Brand*, and *Richard Carvel*.

There are but few dark reds that are of the highest quality. In fact the Peony symposium places but eight with a rating of 8.5 or better. Of these 8 World's Best

Dark Reds, 3 are Brands, namely: *Longfellow*, 9.0; *Richard Carvel*, 8.8; and *Mary Brand*, 8.7. And we feel perfectly satisfied that when our other reds shall become better known, at least two more of our varieties will be added to this list, namely: *Charles McKellip* and *Lora Dexheimer*.

Other Varieties received the following averages:

*Brand's Magnificent*, with 13 votes, 8.7;  
*Faribault*, with 14 votes, 8.2;  
*Florence Nightingale*, with 18 votes, 8.1;  
*Harriet Farnsley*, with 9 votes, 8.2;  
*Henry Avery*, with 16 votes, 8.5;  
*Luetta Pfeiffer*, with 7 votes, 8.4;  
*Mrs. A. G. Ruggles*, with 8 votes, 8.2;  
*Phoebe Carey*, with 18 votes, 8.8;  
*Ruth Brand*, with 19 votes, 8.1.

## Prices of Brand Peonies

The reader who has followed the story of our work, and has seen how many years it takes to produce and test a peony, and then work up enough stock to put the variety on the market will not wonder that the price of such a peony is high. We often receive letters from customers expressing the wish that they could afford to include some Brand peonies in their order. We always echo the wish. The time has now come when any one giving even a small peony order will be able to include some of ours. For, although some varieties make root growth slowly and will always remain costly, others multiply rapidly. We have now accumulated sufficient stock of some of these last varieties to make it possible for us to make reductions in prices.

An illustration will make the matter clear. The original plants of *Martha Bulloch* and *Mary Brand* were selected from the same seed bed. We have sold more stock of the second than of the first one. Nevertheless we now have on hand ten times as much stock of *Mary Brand* as of *Martha Bulloch*. Now the first plants of *Mary Brand* sold for \$100.00, while the present price is \$5.00. The original price of *Martha Bulloch* was \$10.00. We now list it at \$25.00 and cannot get any stock ahead. We should not be able to supply the demand if we pushed the variety.

An examination of our prices (pp. 39 to 44) will show that a number of our peonies have been reduced to \$2.00 and others to \$1.00 a root.

St. Servan, France, March 6, 1922: *My collection of choice peony roots are here and are growing wonderfully. The Richard Carvel is fully three inches high, and the Festiva Maxima*

*nearly five. I planted them January 11th and with the good start they now have, I hope to see them bloom this season.*

—Arthur Durand.

Philadelphia, Pa.: *The package with the peony root came to hand just as I was leaving for the West. I want to compliment you for your promptness in executing orders. Notwithstanding the distance, your shipments arrived here in less than half the time required from some nearby growers. The stock you sent me was as fine as I have ever received, and in some instances was very much better.*

Allegan, Mich.: *I wish to report that the box of peonies came through in excellent condition, and when we opened it,—well, it was like inspecting the stockings on Christmas morning, and my sister-in-law and I, who are planting the peonies together were just as tickled as "kids" doing the inspecting, over the size and good looks of our precious roots. We did not open the box until already to plant, and then kept at it until the last one was in.*

Franklin, Pa.: *I do not believe I wrote you acknowledging receipt of the peony "David Harum" which you sent me last month, but I want to thank you for the extra fine root you sent me, and I agree with my friend—that your company sends out the finest and largest roots of any peony growers. I wanted to write you again and bring to your attention the possibility of securing a root of your new peony, Victory Chateau Thierry, and the other new peonies listed in your catalog if possible for next year's delivery.*

Chicago, Ill.: *The Martha Bulloch that I bought from you in the fall of 1919 is now in bloom, and I want to say that I don't believe I have ever seen a more beautiful peony. I do not see how it could be improved upon as to either color or form, and one thing about it that I like is that the flower is supported by a stem strong enough to hold the flower without support. That is saying a good deal for the stem when the size of the bloom is considered. However, I am surprised that this peony has not thrown out more shoots. Although I planted it in the fall of 1919, this year it had only two shoots, but each of these produced a beautiful flower.* —Harold L. Ickes.





A Field of Two-year-old "Festiva Maxima" in Bloom

## Our Selected List of Peonies

Raising peonies has never been a hobby with us. For the last fifty years it has been a part of our business. During the first years of the period it was the interesting part; during the last years it has been the absorbing part. From the beginning, we have collected all European and American varieties that have won any considerable reputation, and have tested out all but some of the most recent ones in our own garden.

We offer, besides our own productions, a carefully selected list of the best varieties of other originators. Many collections are much larger, but we are listing only those sorts which, according to our judgment, are really good. Our list of selected varieties includes many rare sorts. For example, we offer such French varieties as *La France*, *Le Cygne*, *La Fee*, *Therese*, *Tourangelle*, *Solange*, *Sarah Bernhardt*, and *Mons. Martin Cahuzac*. Among our varieties of English origin are *Kelway's Glorious*, *Phyllis Kelway*, and *Lady Alexandra Duff*. Among late American introductions we list *Jubilee*, *Standard*

*Bearer*, *Loveliness*, *Karl Rosenfield*, *Walter Faxon*, and *Milton Hill*. Many promising new varieties will not be found in the list. We wish it to be clearly understood that we are not discriminating against these. We are omitting them because we have not yet been able to test them out.

The sorts above named, like many of our own introductions, are somewhat costly, but they are the *newest* as well as the best. But no one need think that because he cannot afford novelties, he must go without beautiful flowers. We have also included in our selected list the very best of the older and cheaper varieties. These were put upon the market years ago without much formal testing along with many inferior sorts. But with us they have stood the exacting test of time. Large stocks of these old varieties exist, and they are therefore inexpensive. For about a dollar apiece one can obtain strong roots of such fine pink varieties as *Albert Crousse*, *La Perle*, *Mons. Jules Elie*, *Marguerite Ger-*



ard, Octavie Demay, Eugenie Verdier, Livingstone, and Madame Emile Galle; such good reds as Felix Crousse, Rachel, Eugene Bigot, Rubra Superba, and Meissonier; and such beautiful whites as Avalanche, Festiva Maxima, Madame de Verneville, Couronne d'Or, Duchess de Nemours, Marie Lemoine, Madame Emile Lemoine, and Baroness Schroeder. We have immense stocks of these choice old varieties, and are prepared to fill our orders for them with roots which we are sure will bloom the first year.

On page 36 will be found a table which classifies good inexpensive varieties, both by color and by season. This table includes some of our own peonies as well as selected varieties of other growers. It, together with the topic preceding it, is offered as a help to the many flower lovers who are just beginning to realize the value of the modern peony, and who will find it difficult to make selections from a longer list, pp. 39 to 56.

If the reader has access to the symposium described on page 21 he will see that this list of selected peonies includes nearly all of those varieties voted on which received 20 or more votes and had an average of 8 or better. He will also notice we have included in our list a few that received a grade of less than 8. These according to our judgment, have real merit in spite of their low rating.

For instance, *Mme. de Verneville* is rated at 7.9. The average was brought down by a few very low votes which must have come from a section where for some reason this particular variety does not do so well. At Duluth we find it one of the very finest peonies grown. In our own gardens we should rank it 8.5 at the very least.

*Augustin d'Hour*, rated 7.8, we consider to be one of the very best early reds for cut flower purposes. *Mme. Crousse*, one of the best medium priced whites, received a grade of 7.9.



Acres of Peonies in the Nursery of the Brand Peony Farms



# Miscellaneous Topics of Interest

## History of the Peony

### Botany of the Peony—

Family relationships between flowers as well as between people are often hard to guess. For example, few would suspect that the peony is closely related to the common wild buttercup and the hepatica, or to the well-known garden flowers, the larkspur and the columbine. However, if the simplest forms of these flowers are examined, and the difference in size is ignored, they will be found to have a marked similarity of structure. In fact, all of these plants belong to one botanical family, the *Ranunculaceae*. A number of species of the peony are known to botanists. The many varieties of our modern gardens are descended in the main from two of these, *Paeonia officinalis* and *Paeonia albiflora*.

### Paeonia Officinalis—

This species is a native of Southern Europe. In its wild state it bore single red flowers; but in a state of cultivation double ones appeared. Whites and pinks were also produced. It is the species to which the name *paeonia* was first applied. The ancient Greeks named it from a physician Paeon, who, according to ancient fable, cured the wounds received by the god Mars in the Trojan wars. It was supposed to have medicinal power, and, in time many miraculous powers were attributed to it. Bits of root were worn around the neck as a charm to keep off enchantments. It was introduced into England at an early date. Here, well into the last century, it was planted at the door of many a cottage to keep out evil spirits. It became so common that it was for a time scorned by the wealthy. From England it was brought over to New England, and from here it has been carried all over our country.

The bright red peony of old-fashioned gardens is the finest variety of this species. The "piny toes," which our New England great-grandmothers separated from their cherished clumps and gave to their friends were what we should now buy as divisions of *Rubra officinalis*, although their owners would not have recognized them by this name. This is the earliest of the really good peonies. Being a native of the South, the blooming season comes earlier than that of the other garden varieties, whose ancestors came from the far North. With us it is generally in bloom for Memorial day. The whites of the officinalis species are poor and the pinks are indifferent. But the old standby, *Rubra officinalis*, is a splendid variety, which we could ill-afford to lose.

### Paeonia Albiflora—

This is the species from which are descended most of the varieties of the modern herbaceous peony. It is a native of the cold portion of Siberia, where the temperature often stands at 60 below for a long time. It is no wonder that its descendants are among our hardiest flowers. In its wild state its flowers are typically single, and, as its name implies, they are generally white. But Prof. N. E. Hanson, of the State Agricultural Station at Brookings, S. D., who has been sent by the United States Government on several expeditions into Siberia to search for hardy plants, tells us that he has seen

semi-double blooms, and that occasionally he has run across a pink or a red.

Chinese traders passing over the great wall very early in the Christian era were taken with the flower, and on returning home took roots with them. It soon spread over that great empire and into Japan. Both the Chinese and Japanese have always been flower-loving people. Their nurserymen are ingenious and painstaking to a marked degree. They found the peony, with its different colors, its abundance of seed, and its tendency to throw sports an easy plant to work with; and by the year 600 A. D. they are said to have had hundreds of varieties in singles, semi-doubles, and doubles. The interest in the flower, even at that remote period, was such that they had peony societies, held shows, and kept records of their varieties.

English traders, penetrating China about the first of the Nineteenth Century, saw the flower and took the roots home with them. China had many varieties at this time, and the importers must have selected what seemed to them the finest. Nevertheless, we know of but three of these early importations that are still commonly found in peony lists. They are *Whitleyii*, *Humei*, and *Fragrans*. The peony received a warm welcome in England and soon passed over the channel into France.

### The Work of French Producers—

Although England has had many cultivators of the peony, and some producers, it is in France that the real history of the modern peony begins. A number of French gardeners raised peony seedlings in the early part of the Nineteenth Century and many named a few of their best sorts (see table.) Some of these old varieties still find a place in most lists of peonies and a few are splendid varieties. Among the good ones are *L'Indispensable*, *Delicatissima*, *Festiva*, *Festiva Maxima*, *Edulis Superba*, *Grandiflora*, *Nivea Plena*, *Alexander Dumas*, *Modeste Guerin*, *Purpurea Superba*, and *Madam Calot*. Since 1850 France has had four great originators—Calot, Crousse, Lemoine, and Dessert. Each has produced a long list of good peonies.

CALOT was the first of France's really great peony breeders. His work was done at Nancy, directly east of Paris perhaps a hundred and fifty miles. He inherited the collection of the Comte de Cussey; and, using this as a foundation for his work, he produced and named many meritorious varieties. He continued sending out seedlings up to the year 1872. Of the Calot peonies we have selected sixteen very fine sorts, all of which we consider worth growing, and many of which are strictly first class (see table, p. 27). *Eugene* and *Eugenie l'erdier*, *Marie Lemoine*, *Mons. Dupont*, and *Reine Hortense* we consider his best. In fact, we rank these among the world's best.

CROUSSE: Calot's work as an originator ceased with the year 1872, and during that year his collection passed into the hands of Crousse. It was a fortunate transfer. Calot was a great florist, but Crousse seems even greater. He was a tireless worker, and most painstaking. During the years this



great collection was in his hands he produced more good sorts than any other one man. He had a genius for selection, and the flowers he named and sent out are, as a rule, of a very high standard. From 1872 to 1879 he continued to send out from the Calot seedlings, but after 1879 the flowers were his own. The first good flower accredited to him in order of time is *Livingstone*, a magnificent deep pink and a flower hard to excel. *Livingstone* was introduced in 1879, and was followed during the next 17 years by a long list of uniformly high class flowers. His *Avalanche* is a flower without defect. We had rather sell to a beginner a *Mons. Jules Elie* than any other peony.

**THE LEMOINES.** In the same garden at Nancy where Calot and Crousse produced their wonderful flowers, Victor Lemoine, the greatest flower originator of all time, also did his work. He produced many fine varieties of roses, geraniums, begonias, lilacs, and many other flowers, as well as of the peony. The uniformly high quality of the Lemoine peonies is remarkable. *Le Cygne*, the rival of *Therese* in general favor, *La Fee*, *La France*, *Solange*, *Sarah Bernhardt*,—the collector wants these and all the rest.

His son, Emile Lemoine, is now carrying on his work. Through the many raids upon Nancy during the late World War, he stayed bravely at his post, though a bomb from a German gun landed within a hundred yards of his house and about the same distance from the entire stock of one of his most cherished peonies.

**DESSERT:** At Chenanceaux, in Southern France, lives a genial gentleman styled Mons. A. Dessert. He is the originator of *Therese*, which is very generally considered the most beautiful of all peonies. Dessert is the greatest living authority on the peony. He has produced many varieties, and as a rule they are of the very highest order. While Calot and Crousse seem to have worked for beauty of form, for constitutional vigor of plant, and profusion of bloom, Dessert seems to have worked also for beautiful color combination. *Tourangelle* we consider the equal of *Therese*.

Of these four great French originators of the peony, it might be interesting to know that Crousse and Dessert are still living. Crousse gave up active work with the peony many years ago but Dessert retired from work only this year.

## The English Producers—

**THE ENGLISH KELWAYS**, father and son, are the great English originators. They have sent out an immense number of varieties. The most of these have been inferior in quality. However, they have some remarkable varieties. Of these *Baroness Schroeder* is the best known. *Kelway's Glorious* is a truly wonderful flower. The call for it at \$40.00 per plant is so great that we have been compelled by insistent purchasers to sell some of the seedlings in our show bed.

## The Work of American Originators—

For perhaps a half century American peony lovers have been producing seedling peonies, some on a large scale, others on a small one. It is too early to estimate most of their work, but we feel confident that some of these early American seedlings are destined to hold a permanent place in the list of the world's best peonies. We are sorry we are not familiar with all the productions of American originators, but we cannot

close this account of the modern peony without some account of achievements in our own country.

**JOHN RICHARDSON**, of Dorchester, Mass., was a plant-breeder of very high order. He worked on a limited scale, but he loved his work and was painstaking. His *Walter Faxon* and *Milton Hill* are wonderful for their good size, pure color, and fragrance. *Milton Hill* must be cut in the bud and developed inside, as its colors are too delicate to stand the sun. His *Grandiflora* comes to us when everything else is gone. It is a pink, beautiful in both color and form. His *Rubra Superba* is also a splendid flower, and as late as *Grandiflora*. It is surprising that the same man should have produced both the best very late red and the best very late pink.

**MR. HOLLIS** of Massachusetts, we are inclined to believe, produced but three first-class peonies. But these rank high. *Standard Bearer* is a splendid variety. The habit of this plant is excellent. The stems are very stout and rigidly erect. They are strong enough to carry well their immense loads of beauty. *Standard Bearer* is a *Madam Ducl* on a very large scale. *Loveliness* is all the name implies. It is an immense flat flower of a uniform hydrangea pink. *Maud L. Richardson* is another splendid Hollis variety.

**MR. ROSENFELD** has given us in *Karl Rosenfield* a flower of the first order. It is an immense bright red, a good bloomer, a fine cut flower, and a splendid show flower. Considering its shade of red, it is one of the best reds ever produced.

**MR. TERRY** sent out a long list of varieties, but we are afraid that but few of them will stand the test when compared with those of more discriminating growers. But his *Rachel* is a splendid flower. *Etta* is very good. It is a late pink of good form and color.

**MRS. PLEAS** worked long and diligently with her seedlings, and has been rewarded by seeing two of her varieties take the very highest rank. *Jubilee* is a wonderful white of great beauty, while in *Elwood Pleas* she has given us a fine pink of a very pure attractive shade. Both varieties show up splendidly in the show room.

**THE THURLOWS** have produced at least four very fine peonies,—*President Wilson* (undoubtedly the best), *E. C. Shaw*, *Cherry Hill*, and *Pride of Essex*.

**SAUNDERS** has shown some very good things. His *Grace Loomis* is a very fine large white, and *Sylvia*, a semi-double pink, very much resembles a large semi-double wild rose.

**MR. FRANKLIN** also has some fine seedlings. Probably the best are *W. F. Christman* and *Mabel Franklin*.

**MR. SHAYLOR** has produced some seedlings that have won hearty praise. His *Georgiana Shaylor* and *Mary Woodberry Shaylor* we know are exceptionally fine.

We were fortunate enough to attend the Cleveland National Convention when his *Mrs. Edward Harding* received the \$100.00 prize. The three specimen blooms upon which the prize was received were as fine white peonies as we have ever seen. They are the only perfectly developed blooms of this very recent variety that we have ever seen.

**THE BRAND PEONIES** have received a recognition of which we are proud. Of the 22 varieties which, according to the votes of the American Peony Society, rank as the world's choicest, five were produced by Lemoine, five by Dessert, four by the Brands, and three by the Kelways. No other originator has produced more than two.

## Historial Table of Peonies

### Chief Producers and Their Varieties

In this table the chief peony originators and their productions are arranged as nearly as possible in chronological order. The table shows also the ratings of the varieties in the symposium of the American Peony Society.

#### French Producers—

Votes Average		
<b>LEMON</b>		
40	8.1	Grandiflora Nivea Plena (1824)
66	7.6	Edulis Superba (1824)
<b>DONKELAER</b>		
31	8.0	Festiva (1838)
<b>DELACHE</b>		
5	6.8	Purpurea Superba (1855)
43	7.1	Delachei (1856)
<b>GUERIN</b>		
47	7.8	Modeste Guerin (1845)
35	7.1	Alexander Dumas (1862)
<b>MIELLEZ</b>		
84	9.3	Festiva Maxima (1851)
49	8.1	Mme. Calot (1856)
<b>CALOT</b>		
40	8.7	Reine Hortense (1857)
66	8.1	Duchess de Nemours (1858)
40	8.2	Gigantea (1860)
28	8.1	Mlle. Leonie Calot (1861)
36	8.0	Boule de Neige (1862)
60	8.3	Eugene Verdier (1864)
58	8.6	Eugenie Verdier (1864)
42	7.8	Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille (1865)
36	7.9	Mme. Crousse (1866)
49	7.8	Augustin d'Hour (1867)
42	8.5	Octavie Demay (1867)
27	7.5	Constant Devred (1869)
67	8.5	Marie Lemoine (1869)
57	8.3	Mons. Dupont (1872)
67	8.1	Couronne D'Or (1873)
33	8.1	Mlle. Rosseau (1868)
<b>CROUSSE</b>		
58	8.1	Livingstone (1879)
45	7.9	Mme. Geissler (1880)
75	8.4	Felix Crousse (1881)
65	8.5	Mme. Emile Galle (1881)
36	7.7	Mme. Forel (1881)
40	7.5	Mme. de Galhau (1883)
62	8.7	Albatre (1885)
60	7.9	Mme. de Verneville (1885)
61	8.7	Claire Dubois (1886)
39	8.5	La Perle (1886)
44	8.3	La Rosiere (1888)
78	9.2	Mons. Jules Elie (1888)
50	8.9	Marie Crousse (1892)
56	8.4	Marguerite Gerard (1892)
58	8.6	Albert Crousse (1893)
59	8.1	Asa Gray (1895)

Votes Average		
24	8.2	Gismonde (1895)
23	8.2	Pierre Ducharte (1895)
<b>LEMOINE</b>		
50	8.9	Mme. Emile Lemoine (1899)
21	8.1	Galathee (1900)
42	9.0	La France (1901)
20	8.6	La Lorraine (1901)
36	8.9	Enchantress (1903)
41	8.8	Alsace Lorraine (1906)
27	9.2	La Fee (1906)
49	9.0	Sarah Bernhardt (1906)
56	9.9	Le Cygne (1907)
47	8.6	Primevere (1907)
59	9.7	Solange (1907)
21	8.4	Lamartine (1908)
<b>VERDIER</b>		
46	8.3	Marie Jacquin
<b>DESSERT</b>		
56	8.5	Adolphe Rosseau (1890)
24	7.6	Pierre Dessert (1890)
29	8.3	Eugene Bigot (1899)
31	8.2	Mme. de Treveran (1899)
62	8.8	M. Martin Cahuzac (1899)
32	8.4	Albiflora, the Bride (1902)
46	8.5	Germaine Bigot (1902)
71	9.8	Therese (1904)
46	9.0	Rosa Bonheur (1905)
47	9.4	Mme. Jules Dessert (1909)
27	9.0	Raoul Dessert (1910)
49	9.4	Tourangelle (1910)
16	8.8	Souv. de Louis Bigot (1913)

Votes Average		
82	9.2	Phillipe Rivoire (1911)

#### English Producers—

THE KELWAYS		
50	8.3	Venus (1888)
70	9.0	Baroness Schroeder (1889)
49	8.7	James Kelway (1900)
49	9.1	Lady Alex. Duff (1902)
16	8.8	Phyllis Kelway (1908)
33	9.8	Kelway's Glorious (1909)
33	8.8	Kelway's Queen (1909)

#### American Producers—

RICHARDSON		
48	7.7	Dorchester (1870)
43	7.2	Rubra Superba (1871)
62	8.8	Grandiflora (1883)
63	9.0	Milton Hill (1891)
48	9.3	Walter Faxon (1904)

Votes Average		
<b>HOLLIS</b>		
21	8.5	Maud L. Richardson (1904)
17	8.8	Standard Bearer (1906)
26	8.8	Loveliness (1907)
<b>ROSENFELD</b>		
57	8.8	Karl Rosenfield (1908)
<b>TERRY</b>		
14	7.9	Rachel
32	8.0	Etta
39	8.2	Grover Cleveland
<b>MRS. PLEAS</b>		
22	8.5	Opal
38	8.7	Elwood Pleas
38	8.9	Jubilee
<b>SHAYLOR</b>		
29	8.9	Georgiana Shaylor (1908)
18	9.4	Mary Woodberry Shaylor
13	9.9	Mrs. Edward Harding
<b>FRANKLIN</b>		
		W. F. Christman
		Mabel Franklin
<b>SAUNDERS</b>		
8	9.2	Grace Loomis (1920)
		Sylvia
<b>THURLOW</b>		
24	8.6	Cherry Hill (1915)
12	8.8	Pride of Essex (1916)
7	9.4	Pres. Wilson (1918)
5	9.4	E. C. Shaw (1919)
<b>THE BRANDS</b>		
20	7.8	Charles McKellip (1907)
29	9.2	Elizabeth B. Browning (1907)
31	9.1	Francis Willard (1907)
16	8.5	Henry Avery (1907)
24	8.6	Judge Berry (1907)
33	9.0	Longfellow (1907)
36	9.2	Martha Bulloch (1907)
27	8.7	Mary Brand (1907)
18	8.8	Phoebe Carey (1907)
36	8.8	Richard Carvel (1907)
19	8.1	Ruth Brand (1907)
27	8.4	Chestine Gowdy (1913)
22	8.4	Lora Dexheimer (1913)
10	7.8	Winnifred Domme (1913)
7	8.4	Luetta Pfeiffer (1916)
13	8.7	Brand's Magnificent (1918)
14	8.2	Faribault (1918)
		David Harum (1920)
		Mrs. Jennie R. Gowdy (1920)
		Desire (1922)





MARIE CROUSSE, on Three Year Old Plants



## The Future of the Peony

Probably most of us have heard the statement made with a good deal of feeling that there is no longer any need of bringing out new peonies; that, in fact, the limit of beauty in the peony was long ago reached. "Why," we are asked, "should anyone pay \$25.00 for some new variety, such as *Martha Bulloch*, for example, when for \$1.00 he can get a root of *Mons. Jules Elie*, which is just as good a variety?" The people who talk in this way would have us believe that the history of the peony is closed.

An examination of the 1922 Symposium of the American Peony Society furnishes the answer to all such talk. Among the peonies voted on, a good many of those which received an average between 8 and 9 originated, it is true, in the last century. This means that, in the minds of peony lovers, we have a long list of good inexpensive varieties to select from.

But further examination of that symposium shows that of the 22 varieties having 20 or more votes and receiving an average of nine or better, all but four originated in this century. This means that the collector who wants the world's very best flowers must choose his collection largely from recent introductions. The small number of strictly first class old sorts would give him a narrow range both of good color and fine form. To go back to the *Martha Bulloch-Jules Elie* comparison: It is true that both varieties are pink, and that they have exactly the same rating (9.1) in the symposium. But it is also true that these two varieties are entirely unlike in type. The peony collector cannot spare either one.

As for us, we believe that the last chapter in the history of the modern peony is far from being written, and we expect to have a share in writing its future history.

## Peony Types

The progenitor of our modern herbaceous peony, *Paeonia albiflora*, as has been said, is a native of Siberia, and bears a white flower which is single in form. It has been cultivated extensively, first in China and Japan, and later in Europe and America, and through cultivation has come to vary widely in form as well as color. Now many conditions of a state of cultivation are more favorable to variation in a plant than are the conditions of the wild state. The chief of these, as we have seen in the story of the development of the Brand varieties, are (1) intensive cultivation, (2) an increased food supply, (3) cross fertilization, both natural and artificial, and (4) selection and preservation of plants bearing desirable characteristics.

Probably a variation of color occurred at first. An early Chinese writer mentions a red as well as white peony. From these two varieties and their descendants other colors have come.

But the wide variation in form which has come about seems even more wonderful than the variation in color. The process by which double blooms have been developed from singles is interesting. This change is brought about by the transformation of stamens and pistils into petals. An entirely double variety thus contains neither stamens nor pistils. Our modern peony furnishes flowers in all stages of development, from the original single to the entirely double. It is clear, then, that no hard and fast lines can be drawn between types. But since everyone with any knowledge of peonies is as much interested in form as in color, some sort of classification is needed as a help in describing varieties.

Certain rather loosely applied names of types have come into use. In our definitions of these terms we have followed as closely as we could the generally accepted practice, while at the same time we have tried to avoid what seemed to us common inconsistencies. In our descriptions of varieties, we use the terms when they serve our purpose, but in many cases we feel that a description is better than a mere name.

1. **SINGLE.** This class of flowers contains seed bearing carpels, a mass of pollen producing stamens, a single row of wide petals or guards, and a calyx.

2. **JAPANESE.** This type illustrates the first stage in the doubling process. The stamens have become greatly enlarged.

They are narrow and thick and of various colors. They have taken a step towards the petal form. Vestiges of anthers remain, and these sometimes carry pollen.

3. **BOMB.** In this stage the stamens have taken on the texture of petals. They are, however, narrower than the guard petals, and their edges curve towards each other. They exist in great numbers and form a distinct ball, surrounded by the wide and more drooping guards.

4. **THE CROWN.** Sometimes the carpels also become transformed into petals. Often these petals differ from those produced from stamens and form a well defined central tuft. Such a bloom has thus three distinct sets of petals—those formed from carpels being surrounded by the transformed stamens, and these in turn by the wider guards. Such a flower belongs to the crown type.

5. **CONE.** Sometimes the great mass of petals, just as the bud opens, form a perfect cone, which is surrounded by the guard petals. This gives the type its name. But often as the flower develops, the innermost petals push up and form a crown.

6. **ROSE.** When both stamens and carpels have been transformed into large round petals that differ little if any from the guards, we have the rose type.

7. **SEMI-ROSE.** These flowers are like those of the rose, except that part of the stamens have remained unchanged. These may be scattered among the broad petals or they may be arranged in a ring around a central group of petals as in the well-known Couronne d'Or.

8. **DOUBLE.** When all stamens and pistils have become transformed into petals, whether these are like or unlike the guards, the flower is entirely double. The rose type then is double. The bomb may be double, but it may contain carpels. The crown also may be double, but it may contain a few stamens or petals that are only partially transformed and bear remnants of anthers.

9. **SEMI-DOUBLE.** Of all of this list of terms this one is most loosely used. We apply it to a very loosely built flower of the semi-rose type.





Digging Peonies on Brand Peony Farms

Harriet  
-Brand-



## Culture of the Peony

The peony stands at the head of the list of hardy plants, since it will live year after year even if totally neglected. But, like corn and potatoes, it must have intensive cultivation to come to its greatest perfection. It is for those persons who like to give the plant the best chance possible to show what it can do that the following cultural directions have been prepared.

**LOCATION AND SOIL.** Peonies should be planted where they will receive full sun and where the soil will not be impoverished by the roots of trees and large shrubs. A well-drained soil is necessary to good results, as peonies will not do well when the ground is wet and soggy. The heavier soils produce the best blooms, but sandy soils will give good results if well fertilized and liberally supplied with water during the blooming season and times of drought. A sandy soil is especially good for propagation.

**PREPARATION FOR RECEIVING PLANTS.** If a regular bed is to be set out, begin preparations a month before the plants arrive. If the soil is fairly good garden soil suitable for raising vegetables, plow or spade to the depth of eight inches. Then work up the soil, level it off, and leave until time to set the plants. Top fertilization will be sufficient. But if you have filled soil of poor quality dig it out to the depth of two feet. Fill in with what when well packed will make about a foot of good well rotted stable manure. Then fill in with twelve inches of good garden soil, packing it down and leaving it to settle.

If it is planned to scatter the plants in an herbaceous border already started, provide enough space for each plant to enable it to develop properly. If plants are to be set out as specimen plants in the lawn, enough sod should be taken up to permit of good preparation of the soil and thorough cultivation.

**TIME TO PLANT.** The best time to handle the peony is when the roots have become fully developed. With us this time is somewhere from the twenty-fifth of August to the fifth of September. We like to dig the plants as near this time as possible and get them to our customers some time in September. This gives them time to make good root growth before winter sets in. However, if for any reason it is inconvenient to get plants out in September, do not wait until another fall.

We know that the general advice found in peony catalogs is against spring plantings, but we believe that better results will be obtained by it than by waiting until another fall. You may not get bloom as quickly as on plants set out the preceding fall, but in a year your plants will be far better developed than they would be if you had waited to set them out the following fall. Almost all kinds of nursery stock is stored in the fall and planted in the spring. If peony roots are dug at the proper time and stored as we know how to store them, they can be planted as successfully in the spring as can apple trees, spirea, or other nursery stock. Every spring during the fifty-five years we have been in business we have sold as a rule thousands of peonies and have yet to hear of any marked difference in results obtained between roots sent out in the fall and roots sent out in the spring.

We do not advise amateurs to plant after the first of May, but in propagating our own stock, we are often forced to make large plantings late in the spring. We are showing on page

23 a picture of a field of two year old Festiva Maxima in full bloom. These plants were purchased in the fall of 1919 for planting out in our own fields. But when they arrived, the ground was frozen and they were put in our storage building. Owing to an unusual rush of business we were unable to take them from storage until the 1st and 2nd of June, and they were already pretty well started. They did not look as thrifty that fall as they would have looked if planted the previous September but, by the next fall, they were far ahead of peonies planted the fall after they were. This fall, the spring planted bed looked like three year olds, while the fall planted bed looked like two year olds. We remember also that in 1918 we began to plant a field of peonies taken from storage on the 7th and 8th of June. They had made a sickly growth of six to eight inches, and many nurserymen would have thrown them away. This bed of peonies made but a short growth that year but in the fall of 1921 we dug this bed and it was a splendid lot of three year olds apparently not in the least hurt by its poor start.

We do not like to dig peonies in the spring. If you expect to plant in the spring, we should like to receive your order before the ground freezes in the fall.

**PLANTING.** When the plants arrive, remove the packing and immerse them in water for about eight hours. This will not hurt the roots; and if they happen to be shrivelled, it will help greatly.

To produce the finest blooms, peonies should be planted three feet apart each way. Four feet is better. They should not be placed where the soil will be sapped by the roots of large trees, or where they will be crowded by other plants.

Set the plants so that the tops of the pink or white buds will come two inches below the surface. Work the soil in around the roots with the fingers. Press down firmly with the heel, being careful not to injure the buds. Then fill the hole with loose soil and mound it up about two inches above the surrounding surface. This last step insures the shedding of water during the first winter. After the ground is frozen, apply a light mulch of strawy manure, straw, wild hay, or corn stalks.

**CULTIVATION.** When garden making time comes in the spring, remove the mulch and level the mound. As soon as the buds appear above the ground, begin cultivating and cultivate until the plants are in bloom. The soil should be stirred to the depth of two inches close to the plant and three farther away. If the plants are in rows, cultivate to the depth of six inches between the rows. The potato fork and the potato hook are good tools to use where horse cultivation is impossible. After the blooming season cultivate enough to keep down the weeds.

If the peonies are planted as specimens on the lawn, the sod should be removed around each plant in a circle at least three feet in diameter. The soil from which the sod is removed should be continually stirred in the spring from the appearance of the plants until the blooms are about to open.

**WATERING.** In times of drought, give an occasional thorough watering. A liberal supply of water during the blooming season will help greatly to make fine flowers. A good way to water is to dig a little trench around a plant about six inches from the stalks and pour in two or three pails of water at a time. Where plants are in rows an entire row may be easily



watered by digging a trench on each side and filling from the hose. Such a watering will last for a week. The ordinary sprinkling is useless. After the blooming season, cease watering.

**CUTTING BACK THE PLANT.** In cutting flowers, be sure to allow at least two leaves to remain on each stem to insure root growth for another year. After the blooms have fallen, cut off the flower buds and trim the plant enough to make it shapely. In this way it will remain an attractive feature of the garden throughout the summer. By the first of September it is safe to cut the stalks to the ground if for any reason it is desirable to do so.

**WINTER PROTECTION.** In such localities as Illinois, Ohio, and southern Iowa, snow cannot be depended upon to furnish continuous covering; and in Northern Minnesota, North Dakota, and Canada, high winds often sweep the ground bare of snow. Here the ground is likely to heave, and a light covering such as has been recommended for newly set plants should be furnished each winter. But in Northern Iowa, Southern Minnesota, and Wisconsin, where the ground is covered throughout the winter with more or less snow, no mulch is necessary after the first year.

**FERTILIZING.** As a fertilizer, nothing is better than well rotted stable manure, cow manure being preferable. However, much harm is done by frequent heavy applications of manure. Perhaps a safe rule is to give a good covering of manure, about three inches deep, once in three years. In the spring this should be raked from the tops of the plants, and worked into the ground a little distance away.

In our own practice we have used a good deal of wood ashes. About a quart applied to a good strong three year old plant every other year has given splendid results. If show

flowers are wanted, liquid manure, applied at intervals of two weeks from the time the plants appear above the ground until they are in bloom will bring surprising results.

**WHY PEONIES DO NOT BLOOM.** "Why don't my peonies bloom?" This is one of the commonest questions that come to our office. We are going to give what we believe are the chief causes of failure with peonies. Each person will probably be able to determine the one or ones which apply to his peonies.

You may receive an impoverished root,—one that was in poor condition when dug or that had not been properly handled after being dug. In such a case you must not expect a good blooming plant for two or three years. Moreover, the root may never gain vigor.

A common cause of trouble is lack of cultivation. Peonies are often planted in the lawn and the grass allowed to grow up into the roots. You would not expect a good crop of corn or potatoes under such conditions. Peonies, like garden crops, need thorough cultivation.

Peonies need abundant food and moisture. If they are planted near large trees, the soil will be robbed of both water and food elements. As a rule the roots of large trees sap the soil for a distance equal to the height of the tree. Grass may do well under and near trees but peonies will not.

Peonies need sunshine. They should not be planted where they will not receive it for a large part of the day.

Too deep planting is, perhaps, the commonest cause of lack of bloom. Peony roots, as has been said, should be so set that the little pink or red buds will come two inches below the surface of the ground. If set deeper, the buds will form up on the stem instead of on the fleshy root, and are not likely to produce flowers.

## Diseases and Insect Enemies

It is often said that the peony is free from all diseases and that it has no insect enemies. It is certainly true that the peony is more free from disease and the attacks of insect enemies than any other flower we could name. There is, however, one disease, "The French Root Disease" which we believe is a serious menace to the future of the peony. There are also some minor troubles which may appear under certain conditions, and which it is well to be warned against.

"THE FRENCH ROOT DISEASE" comes to you in the root you buy. It is easily detected, manifesting itself in the alternate more or less rough enlargements and contractions of the roots. Little is understood of the disease, but it seems to be contracted by the living plant from the soil where diseased plants have previously grown. It is not likely to give much trouble on large grounds where peony plantings can often be alternated with other crops. But we should advise anyone who grows peonies on a city lot where they must grow for years in the same soil never to plant varieties having this disease no matter how beautiful they may be. Varieties badly infected throw up but a short feeble growth and seldom give any bloom. The disease is found chiefly in the Lemoine varieties which have been grown so long on the same soil. Fortunately, however, two of the best of them, *Le Cygne* and *La France* do not seem to be infected.

We have carried several infected sorts in our list for the last eight or ten years, but no longer offer them for sale. We

continue to grow them, as we hope, through cultural methods we are now employing, to be able in time, to send out healthy stock. The method which we consider most promising is that of grafting buds of these kinds into roots of other sorts that naturally make a thrifty growth, and are absolutely free from disease. But this is work for the professional grower; and it will take some years for him to obtain real knowledge of the results.

**BOTHRYTIS** is a fungus disease. Shoots will suddenly blacken and wilt during close, hot, wet weather. We have little trouble with this disease in our own field. We attribute this to the thorough cultivation we give especially during warm, wet spells.

If the trouble appears, take a knife and remove diseased stalks about one inch below the surface of the ground. Burn the diseased stalks and keep the soil around the plants loose and thus prevent its getting stagnant.

**HOLLOW CROWN ROOT DISEASE.** There is one other disease that gives some trouble. This is the "Hollow Crown Root Disease." It is most often to be found in old clumps. It is easily recognized when the plants are dug. The center of the crown appears as a hollow shell, the bark and buds alone remaining. The parts within are rotted away, generally with a dry rot that extends into the large roots. This disease is easily controlled. Lift the plant and divide it into good



divisions. Carefully scrape out all the diseased parts of the root and plant in good clean soil free from fresh manure. Generally this one treatment will eliminate the trouble. But should it not do so lift the root again at the end of the second year. Scrape out all diseased tissue, plant again, and the chances are your roots will come perfectly clean.

**LEAF RUST** sometimes appears during a succession of very wet seasons. Bordeaux mixture will check this.

**ANTS.** No insect troubles the peony unless it is the ant. We

have never been able to discover that it has done us any injury, but have received reports from many who say that, in their smaller plantings where the number of ants to the plant is greater, it injures the bud. The ant is after the sweet, sticky juice that exudes from the ball of the bud. Some who have given *Bothrytis* considerable study think that the insect carries the spores of the fungus disease from diseased plants to the buds of other plants and so spreads the disease. A string wet in kerosene and placed on the ground around the plant will keep ants away.

## Uses of the Peony

Although the peony has rivals in our Southern States and in California, it is *the* flower for the northern part of the United States and the southern part of Canada.

Here it is unequalled for furnishing masses of color for landscape effects. No flower excels it for interior decoration, either for the home or on a large scale, as for weddings, banquets, commencements, etc. It is also unequalled as a cut flower when beauty of the individual bloom is the chief consideration.

**FOR OUT-OF-DOOR MASS EFFECT** choose varieties that possess strong color unaffected by the sun, and that are profuse and dependable bloomers. Plant close together. It is not necessary that each plant should reach perfect development. Furnish a good background of shrubs or trees in order to bring out the color by contrast. In reds *Longfellow* is the finest and most striking for landscape effect. *Mary Brand*, while not quite so good in color, is a somewhat more profuse and surer bloomer. Among the cheaper sorts, *Ben Franklin*, *Purpurea*, and *Felix Crousse* are excellent.

In whites, *Festiva Maxima* and *Duchess de Nemours* are fine cheap varieties. *Le Cygne* and *Francis Willard* are wonderful for landscape effects but more expensive.

In pinks, *Edulis Superba* and *Alex. Dumas* are splendid old varieties for this purpose. *Phoebe Carey* and *Luetta Pfeiffer* in higher priced varieties are exceptionally fine.

**FOR CUT FLOWERS FOR INTERIOR DECORATION**, plant a row or more of peonies in the garden if possible. Here they can be easily cultivated and will furnish quantities of cut flowers with little work and make it unnecessary to despoil the plants set out especially for landscape effect.

**SHOW FLOWERS.** By the term show flowers we mean flowers that are produced for the beauty of the individual bloom whether they serve to give pleasure to the grower and his friends alone or are intended for exhibition at flower shows. The true flower enthusiast is likely to be more interested in developing the greatest possible beauty in individual blooms than he is in producing mass effects. Now the finest peonies, if developed to their fullest perfection, have a beauty of form and color equal to that of the best roses. Then, too, the modern peony has lost the unpleasant odor of the early sorts, and many of the new varieties possess a fragrance equal to that of the tea-rose. Moreover, its great size gives the peony an impressiveness which the rose lacks. In another respect the peony is superior to the rose. As it increases in size, it retains its beauty of form and delicacy of texture, while increasing the size of the rose seems to coarsen it. The peony grower who wishes to devote some of his plants to the pro-

duction of exceptionally fine flowers may find the following suggestions helpful. Set the plants where they can be thoroughly cultivated and keep the soil loose from early spring through the blooming season. Give each plant plenty of room to develop, as the three-year-olds give the finest flowers.

If there is a lack of moisture give an occasional thorough watering from the time the buds begin to develop.

Disbud the plants. That is, pinch out the side buds when about the size of a pea, leaving only the central bud develop.

Cut the flowers as the bud seems to be opening. Remove most of the leaves. Place in water about eight inches deep, being careful that no water touches the blooms. Set into a cool dark room. Treated in this way, the color develops to its fullest perfection and the texture of the petals is stiffened. For producing mass effects, varieties having a strong color which is not affected by the sun have been advised. But for show blooms, it is apparent that flowers having fine delicate coloring are equally desirable, for the color can be preserved by cutting in the bud and developing in the house.

Some growers, who wish to preserve the color of fine varieties in the field do this successfully by the use of awnings, as illustrated in the picture on page 43.

The great show flowers are *Le Cygne*, *Solange*, *Therese*, *Martha Bulloch*, *La France*, *Mme. Jules Dessert*, *Marguerite Gerard*, *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Phoebe Carey*, *Pres. Wilson*, *Charles McKellip*, *Primevere*, *Avalanche*, *Milton Hill*, *Felix Crousse*, *Walter Faxon*, *Karl Rosenfeld*, *Mme. Emile Lemoine*, *Mme. Emile Galle*, *La Perle*, and *Galathea*. However, the flowers of most of the other varieties are much improved by handling them as show flowers.

If for any reason you wish to retard the blooming season of any variety, give the plants a three or four inch mulch of coarse litter in the spring before the frost is out of the ground. When the buds are nearly ready to open the bloom can be retarded by enclosing in a paper sack held in place by a rubber band.

Farmington, Utah: *The eleven dozen peony roots which I ordered from you some time ago, arrived by freight in good condition. Despite the fact that they have been en route more than three weeks they seemed to be in first class condition, due, I should say, to the manner in which they were packed. Regarding the quality of your stock, permit me to say that I have purchased roots this fall from seven nationally known peony growers. After a careful comparison, I can honestly tell you that only two of the seven firms sent roots as good as yours, but the roots from these two firms cost considerably more than for the same varieties which you sent. In other words I received more value from you than from anyone else.*





Mons. Jules Elie, Two Year Old Plants

### Suggestions for Peony Plantings

**AS HEDGES.** Peonies make fine hedges for division lines between lots, along driveways and walks, as a border for vegetable gardens.

If you have other places on your ground for the growing of peonies you will probably plant these hedges for color effect. In this case plantings of one color and variety closely set will be most effective. However, if all of your peonies must go into the hedge, you had better make a compromise, and plant partly for color effect and partly for full development of individual blooms. In this case, choose some varieties for one purpose, some for the other purpose, give the choice plants more room, and disbud them.

When first set, the peonies of a hedge may be alternated with iris or fine varieties of perennial phlox. A succession of bloom will thus be furnished. Such a border can often be so planned that it can be widened when the peony plants are three or four years old. The other plants can then be moved to the front.

**IN SHRUBBERY AND PERENNIAL BORDERS.** The peony is indispensable for furnishing masses of color in mixed borders. In long borders, the best effects will be produced by setting two or more plants of one variety in a group, alternating the color of the groups. Scatter single plants through a short border. In choosing varieties select early, midseason, and late varieties, and thus insure a long season of bloom.

**IN GARDEN ROWS.** To secure quantities of flowers for cutting and also to produce the most beautiful blooms, plant in rows in the garden. Here cultivation is easy, and the flowers can be cut without interfering with color effects in the more decorative plantings.

**ON GREAT ESTATES.** Good old varieties can be bought very cheap in large quantities. Plantings of from one to five acres so placed that they are seen through a vista or against a background give indescribably beautiful effects. Nothing will add more to the charm of a fine estate.



## Advice to the Novice in Peony Growing

We often receive letters from people who say that they are just becoming interested in peonies, that they want to know more about them, and should like to buy a few roots at once. But, they add, they don't know how to go about making a selection. When they take up a catalog, they are appalled by the pages and pages of descriptions of different varieties, some of them apparently so near alike but differing so much in price. We are addressing this section of our catalog to people who are in this situation.

Other dealers, we know have such letters and they generally meet the situation by offering in their catalogs several collections of different sizes and prices. We also have sometimes offered collections but we have never liked the plan. If you already have, say three or four peonies, you are likely to have among them one, at least, that is in the collection. And even if you don't know much about peonies, you probably have some preference in color at least. Now we often write to perplexed customers that if they will tell us what varieties they already have, what colors they prefer, how many plants they want, and about how much they expect to invest, we will make up for them a list of peonies we are sure they will enjoy. We are willing to do this for you, but we are offering here another plan, which we believe, you will like better.

On page 36 we give a table in which are listed what we consider the very best moderate-priced peonies. This table gives the color, season and price of each. It also gives its rating in the symposium of the American Peony Society. Now we should like to have you make your own selection from this table, making use of the fuller descriptions given on pages 39 to 55 if you wish to do so. We believe that this plan will add interest to the transaction, for it will give you a share in the choice of your flowers, and therefore, a feeling of acquaintance with them before you ever see them. It will also enable you to get varieties that are sure to give satisfaction, for we have included no variety that does not have beautiful flowers and that is not a profuse and sure bloomer. We carry large stocks of these sorts and are prepared to give you good clean roots of a size that are sure to bloom the first year. By taking advantage of our offer of discounts (p. 38) you are likely to get a better bargain than if you should order a ready made collection.

After you have learned more about peonies by growing them in your own garden, visiting the gardens of others, and studying peony literature, you will want to add gradually some of the finest of the new varieties. Thus in time you will pass from the class of novice into that of collector.

## Advice to the Peony Collector

We have all kinds of collectors in the world. We have the collector of cancelled postage stamps, the collector of old coins, the collector of beautiful pieces of china, and so on without end. And we also have the collector of peonies. Now, the making of a collection of peonies is a fine thing, so long as it is carried out along the right lines. The collector of canceled postage stamps adds to his collection every different stamp he can possibly beg, buy or steal. It doesn't make any difference whether it is a pretty stamp or not. It must be different and preferably it must be something hard to get. The question of looks has nothing to do with it. But it is different with peonies. What the collector of peonies should be after is beauty, and beauty only. We have in the world at the present time about 250 very fine varieties of peonies. When the collector, if his means will allow of buying them all, has exhausted this list of good ones, he should stop, carefully adding to his list the good ones as they come out.

Why, some people have what is called the "Peony Bug" so badly that they lose sight of the idea of beauty entirely in making their collections, and let all sorts of other notions guide their choice. Instead of buying first the best production of the different originators they have an ambition to own all the varieties of one producer and buy his least desirable ones as well as his best varieties.

Others in making up their collection, lay stress on pretty names. One customer wrote that he was undecided whether to order a root of one of our best peonies or not. He said he thought he should like the flower but didn't like the name and that in making his initial purchase of a variety he was greatly

influenced by the sound of the name. He mentioned another gentleman, a man whose name is familiar to every informed peony lover in America, who was also influenced in selecting peonies by whether or not he liked the sound of the name.

Some buy peonies merely because they are different. Something odd or even freakish delights them regardless of whether or not it has any real beauty that will make it permanently attractive.

Of all things, don't let such considerations determine the varieties you buy. Buy the good peonies—and the good ones only. Even when buying Brand varieties, buy the good ones and then stop. For what we all should want, as far as peonies are concerned, is good peonies, good peonies only, and more of them.

Every enthusiastic peony collector becomes wrapped up in his flowers. He is interested only in named varieties and wants to have a personal acquaintance with each variety in his collection. If his collection is large he will need to make in a book a plat or a number of plats showing the exact location of each in his plantings. In any company of peony growers there are likely to be several who will be eager to explain their particular system of plats and keys.

Then each plant should have a stake with a label. Perhaps the best stake for the amateur collector is one made of No. 9 galvanized wire with a circular loop on the top. To this a large zinc label should be attached. We shall have samples of these by the middle of the coming winter at 10 cents each.





18000 Seedlings in Full Bloom

### Table of the Best Inexpensive Varieties

EARLY WHITE			EARLY DEEP PINK		
Votes	Average		Votes	Average	
40	8.1	Grandiflora Nivea Plena ..... \$1.00	66	7.6	Edulis Superba ..... .50
60	7.9	Mme. de Verneville ..... .75	78	9.2	Mons. Jules Elie ..... 1.00
66	8.1	Duchess de Nemours ..... .50	19	8.1	Ruth Brand ..... 2.50
84	9.3	Festiva Maxima ..... .75	47	7.8	Modeste Guerin ..... .75
49	8.7	James Kelway ..... 2.00			
MIDSEASON WHITE			MIDSEASON DEEP PINK		
			61	8.7	Claire Dubois ..... 1.00
57	8.3	Mons. Dupont ..... 1.00	45	7.9	Mme. Geissler ..... .75
50	8.9	Mme. Emile Lemoine ..... 1.50	36	7.7	Mme. Forei ..... .75
46	8.3	Marie Jacquin ..... 1.00	49	9.0	Sarah Bernhardt ..... 4.00
36	7.9	Mmc. Crousse ..... .75	23	7.5	Archie Brand ..... 1.00
			9	7.8	Mrs. Carew ..... 1.00
LATE WHITE			LATE DEEP PINK		
62	8.7	Avalanche ..... 1.00	58	8.1	Livingstone ..... 1.00
67	8.1	Couronne D'Or ..... .75	11	7.9	Wm. Penn ..... 1.00
79	9.0	Baroness Schroeder ..... 1.50	9	7.4	Sisters Annie ..... 1.00
67	8.5	Marie Lemoine ..... 1.00	32	8.0	Etta ..... 1.00
18	8.1	Florence Nightingale ..... 1.00			
EARLY LIGHT PINK			EARLY RED		
42	8.5	Octavie Demay ..... 1.00	49	7.5	Officinalis Rubra ..... 1.00
31	7.6	Delicatissima ..... .50	38	8.8	Augustin d'Hour ..... .75
50	8.3	Venus ..... 1.00	56	8.5	Richard Carvel ..... 5.00
58	8.6	Eugenie Verdier ..... 1.00	75	8.4	Adolphe Rosseau ..... 2.00
			24	7.6	Felix Crousse ..... 1.00
			22	7.3	Pierre Dessert ..... 1.00
MIDSEASON LIGHT PINK			MIDSEASON RED		
58	8.6	Albert Crousse ..... 1.00	57	8.8	Karl Rosenfield ..... 2.00
59	8.1	Asa Gray ..... 1.00	27	8.7	Mary Brand ..... 5.00
40	8.7	Reine Hortense ..... 2.50	28	6.5	Meissonier ..... .50
50	8.9	Marie Crousse ..... 3.00	22	8.4	Lora Dexheimer ..... 5.00
			20	7.8	Charles McKelliip ..... 5.00
LATE LIGHT PINK			10	7.6	Ben Franklin ..... 2.00
65	8.5	Mme. Emile Galle ..... 1.00			
23	8.2	Pierre Duchartre ..... 2.00	14	7.9	Rachel ..... 1.00
39	8.5	La Perle ..... 1.00	5	6.8	Purpurea Superba ..... .75
63	9.0	Milton Hill ..... 3.00	43	7.1	Delachei ..... .50
56	8.4	Marguerite Gerard ..... 1.00	29	8.3	Eugene Bigot ..... 2.00
62	8.8	Grandiflora ..... 1.00	43	7.2	Rubra Superba ..... .75



## Two Invitations for 1924

The American Peony Society may hold its next National Show, that of 1924, at Des Moines, Iowa. Should the Directors of the Society decide to hold the Show at Des Moines, we extend an invitation to every peony lover to be present as we know that it will be well worth while attending. The Northwest, with Des Moines as a central point, produces a world of good peonies, and we know that an immense show will be staged. St. Paul put on in 1923 the greatest peony show ever held in America to date and there is no reason why Des Moines should not do as well.

The exhibition will continue two days. This will give visitors from away time not only to see the show itself but to visit the fields of several large growers whose gardens lie close to the city. After you have seen these we wish very much to have you come up to Faribault to see us.

Faribault is 175 miles almost directly north of Des Moines and has direct railroad connections with that city by means of the C. R. I. & P. Ry. Persons leaving Des Moines by rail can thus reach us in a few hours. Make arrangements with us in advance and we will meet you at the station. We hope to have many things of interest to show you. Our field of one, two, and three year old peonies will cover in the neighborhood of twelve acres. These of themselves will be well worth seeing. We also maintain during the entire blooming season

an inside show of all the varieties we carry in the field. This show we hold in our peony storage building in a large well lighted room which makes an ideal show room. Here we can display at one time some 1500 blooms, one in a vase, spread out in true show form. In this way visitors can examine and compare different varieties better than they can in the fields.

We also have two fine fields of peonies which we maintain solely for exhibition purposes. One of these will be filled with four year old plants, the other with three-year-olds next year. Here you will be able to see, grown on plants which have received the very best care, most of the world's finest peonies. These beds we know will be very interesting to all.

Then there will be those new seedlings of ours, about twenty in number, which we have been testing for the last nine or ten years. Many of these we consider as good as have ever been produced, and these can be seen on four year old plants.

If for no other reason, we want you to come to see our bed of entirely new seedlings, some 18,000 in all, which will be in full bloom next year. The bed itself will be beautiful with its marvelous blending of harmonious color. But the interesting fact is that no two plants will produce flowers exactly alike.

Every peony lover, whatever his individual taste in peonies, will surely find some bloom here which will seem to him the most perfect he has ever seen.

## Some Matters of Business

### Our Guarantee as to Quality of Stock—

We guarantee our stock to give satisfaction. We are able to do this for two reasons: First, our many years of experience in handling the peony have given us a knowledge of the best methods to be employed. We know about choosing soils, planting, cultivation, and digging and storing roots, and packing and shipping stock.

In the second place, we have what we believe are unequalled facilities for putting our knowledge into effect. In the first place we have two hundred acres of land in which to grow roots. This enables us to keep our fields of peonies moving from one piece of soil to another. In the last twenty years we have not had to plant peonies twice in succession on the same ground. Thus we are enabled to avoid many of the diseases and other difficulties which growers with limited grounds have to contend with, and can send to our customers good clean roots as free from disease as possible.

Then in our farms we have heavy clay soil, light clay soil, heavy black loam, sandy black loam, and sandy clay soils. This enables us to test out different varieties to see if they will be generally valuable or good only in special localities. This is particularly important in testing our seedlings.

During the last twenty years we have built up large, insulated, frost-proof storage buildings of such capacity that we handled the entire product of our general nursery business under cover. These buildings, constructed of stone and brick with double air spaces in all walls, enable us to maintain the temperature best adapted to the class of stock handled. We now use these buildings for our peony business.

It is often said that a peony root can't be hurt even if handled carelessly, but our experience has taught us different.

We dig our peony roots with the tree digger. They are removed from the field as soon as dug and placed in the storage building. We can carry roots without injury in this way for a month without packing, and with proper packing we can keep them in perfect condition for spring delivery. It is easy to see what an advantage the roots we send out have over those sent out by persons who work on a limited scale and do not have our facilities.

The long experience of our working force is another reason why we can give good service. Our retail orders are filled and checked by the proprietors. We take a personal interest in the kind of roots you get. All stock is handled by men who have been with us constantly all the way from ten to twenty years.

### Our Guarantee as to Genuineness—

We guarantee our stock to be true to name. If any customer should receive stock which, when it comes to bloom, proves not true to name, it is the result of an accident. Such things will happen in the best regulated nursery. Our guarantee is that in such a case, we will send to the customer stock of the variety ordered in the grade of stock sent out in the first instance. He may keep the plant first received.

### Size of Root—

We have been actively engaged in the peony business on a large scale ever since 1867. During the course of these many years we have tried out almost all theories relating to the best and safest methods to be pursued in the handling of the peony. It is our honest conviction based upon this experience that what is known in the peony trade as the 3- to 5-eye division, when properly trimmed back, is the most satisfactory peony root to plant.



But during the course of the last three or four years a practice has grown up in this country of sending out a smaller division of the rare and costly varieties at a corresponding reduction in price. Now we have always in full sincerity advised against this practice, as we foresee for it only the saddest of results. The planting of the small division in the first place is all right, but it is the carrying of the practice to its ultimate results that leads to disaster. We are afraid that the demand for one-eye divisions will become so great that it will lead people not familiar with the best principles of propagation to divide their plants too often. That is, we are afraid that it will bring about a division of the roots every year. Such a procedure can lead only to the lessening of the vitality of the stock, and will in time destroy its desirability. Some of our very finest varieties are weak in constitution and very sparing of bloom, the direct results of this practice. But notwithstanding our constant advice as to the danger of this practice in the peony trade, there is an increasing demand for these small divisions, and we have decided this year to furnish small divisions of these choice varieties where the regular price is not less than \$5.00 per root, and where our stock of the variety is such as will make it advisable for us to do so.

### Prices and Discounts—

In general we believe that our prices are as low as those offered by any grower for stock of the same quality and size as that which we send out. Individual varieties may be found in which they are higher. If these varieties are ordered in a collection of reasonable size, we will meet the price of any grower.

As will be noticed on page 37, we offer prices for 3-5 eye divisions in all varieties, and for one-eye divisions also in some cases.

If cash reaches us before shipment, and not otherwise, \$11.00 worth of plants may be chosen for \$10.00; \$27.50 for \$25.00; \$57.50 worth for \$50.00; and \$120.00 worth for \$100.00. This discount, however, will not be given on one-eye divisions.

We do not offer premiums, but one of our aims as Peony Growers is to be on truly friendly terms with our customers. We want them to get the greatest possible satisfaction from the plants we send them. We always try in filling orders to do a little better than we promise.

### How to Remit—

From now on our business will be conducted under the name of the Brand Peony Farms, the business being owned and operated by A. M. Brand and Myrtle Gentry. All remittances, whether by post office order, registered letter, personal check, or bank draft should be made payable to the Brand Peony Farms.

### Methods of Shipment—

Orders of from one to six plants can generally be shipped cheaper by parcel post than by express. Orders of from six to 100 roots had generally better go by express.

We do not pay transportation charges either by parcel post or by express; but it has been our custom up to this time when we thought we could save our customer a little, to forward by parcel post, and prepay the postage, expecting that the customer would remit the postage to us. But we find that we have lost considerable money by this, as many have failed to reimburse us for our outlay. But we still wish to save our customers on transportation charges. To do this we have decided that on small orders, if the customer will remit ten cents per root, we will forward roots by prepaid parcel post. In doing this, we expect that our losses and gains on postage will be about equal.

Very large orders, unless prompt delivery is important, or unless they are made up of very valuable varieties, should be sent by freight. Our freight shipments are so packed that they can be on the way ten weeks during the fall season without any injury. Nevertheless we should like to have our customers give us instructions about shipping. In the absence of this we will use our best judgment.



Four Acres of Two-Year-Olds



# List of Brand Peonies

Originated by

O. F. Brand and Son

In our last catalog we listed our peonies according to color, but in this one, to make it more convenient for our customers, we have listed everything in alphabetical order, but immediately following the name of the variety we have in every instance given the color of the

variety, thus making it very easy to pick out the colors desired.

In the descriptions of varieties which follow S. D. (small division) means a one-eye division, and L. D. (large division) means a three to five-eye division.

**A. J. DAVIS.** (Brand 1907.) Red. Very large, loose, semi-rose. A tall-growing, early midseason, good bright crimson. A very reliable variety that comes good every year. Flowers are large, produced generally one to a stem. Petals large and loosely arranged, showing stamens. One of the very good reds. L. D. \$1.00.

Plainsfield, N. J.: *My order of peony roots arrived this P. M. on the heels of your notification card, so check up a long credit for the express company. The roots were simply great. Instead of describing your divisions as "large" you might better say "large to enormous." I am very much pleased at your selection of a good red as a gratis root. I am very fond of reds when they are good, but do not favor the general red that has so much purple in its makeup. Please allow me to express my appreciation of your business methods, which combine snap, system, and good judgement.*

**AMANDA YALE.** (Brand 1913.) 23—7.5. Prize Peony. Deep large, loose, semi-rose type. Petals long, narrow and fringed on the edges. Bloom large, loose, semi-rose type. Color milk-white with some petals heavily striped red. A medium tall grower and very profuse bloomer. A good flower. L. D. \$1.00.

**ARCHIE BRAND.** (Brand 1913.) 23—7.5. Prize Pony. Deep pink. An even, deep, sea-shell pink with silvery border. The petals, closely massed, form a solid head which is surrounded by broad drooping guard petals. An immense flower of the bomb type. There is a charm about this flower in its even, soft, uniform color and the peculiar perfection of its form, which attracts the eye from a long distance. Midseason, medium height, profuse bloomer. We believe that it has a stronger, truer rose scent than any other pink variety. This delicate fragrance, added to the charming beauty and grace of the flower, makes this variety especially fine for cut blossoms. It rivals the rose in fragrance and beauty, and far surpasses it in size. It is in a class by itself. This variety does best in clay soils and does not do well under heavy fertilizing. L. D. \$1.00.

Houghton, Mich.: *Archie Brand was picked by everybody at our show as being by far the best bloom.*

**AUNT ELLEN.** (Brand 1907.) 5—7.2. Red. Large, loose, semi-rose. Rich, uniform, purplish crimson. A fine crimson. Early, coming just after Richard Carvel in season. This is a good bloomer year after year, one that can be depended upon. L. D. \$1.00.

**BEN FRANKLIN.** (Brand 1907.) 11—7.6. Red. Medium sized blossoms of semi-rose type. A brilliant crimson with darker shadings at base of petals. Very tall, erect stems carry single blossoms in great profusion. Medium early. This is one of the most striking of our dark peonies. A splendid commercial variety. A fine sort for massing. The fragrance of this flower is slight but agreeable. It is equally desirable as a cut flower and as a landscape variety. The flowers unfold slowly and carry their form and color much longer than most red varieties. It is a charmer and will give satisfaction. A single plant or a group on the lawn, or a vase filled with these gorgeous blossoms always attracts at-

tention and calls forth exclamations of delight and comments of admiration. This is a good dark red which we do not think is fully appreciated. We would class it as the best midseason very dark red peony for cut flower purposes in existence. In the season of 1921 we had a ten-rod row of four-year-old Ben Franklins from which at a single cutting we took 1500 blooms, and even after that the row still looked to be in full bloom. L. D. \$2.00.

**BRAND'S MAGNIFICENT.** (Brand 1918.) 13—8.7. Red. Another great red. We have become noted as the producers of a line of the very best red peonies in cultivation. The late Rev. C. S. Harrison said, "The Brands lead the world in their reds." We have produced many very fine reds, and of these this is one of the very best. Plant medium height, midseason, wonderfully profuse. Blossom semi rose and very beautiful in shape. Petals all large like those of a rose. Color deep, dark red with a bluish cast. The nearest blue of any red peony. When this variety is in bloom people will turn to it time and time again as the best red



ARCHIE BRAND





A Field of Three Year Old Plants Showing Two Rows of the Brand Peony "Chestine Gowdy"



they have ever seen. Wonderful because of the beautiful form of the flower, its prodigality of bloom, its great, broad symmetrically arranged petals, and its magnificent color effect. S. D. \$6.00, L. D. \$15.00.



ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING

**CHARLES McKELLIP.** (Brand 1907.) 20—7.8. **Prize Peony.** A large, loosely built, semi-rose. Probably the most perfect in form of all the bright deep reds. Especially beautiful in the bud. This is one of our varieties whose good qualities are impressing themselves more and more upon us. Color a peculiar shade of deep bright red. Flowers very large. Petals broad, crinkled, and silky. Plant and foliage good. Profuse bloomer. Very fine. Midseason. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$5.00.

Duluth, Minn.: *I saw your Charles McKellip at our show this year and they were the prettiest things I ever saw, especially in the bud.*

**CHESTINE GOWDY** (Brand 1913.) 27—8.4. **Prize Peony.** A striking specimen of the cone shaped peony. The broad outer petals are silvery pink. These enclose a zone of fine irregularly shaped, closely set petals of deep rich pink, which in turn surround a prominent cone of broad pink petals, splashed and tipped with crimson. The perfection of its form, and its rich and delicately varied coloring have repeatedly caused it to be singled out for special admiration from a group of the finest varieties. The stems are long, slender, and strong, bearing a single flower. The flower is of good substance, and when cut just as the bud is bursting, this variety makes one of our best cut flowers. Medium late. It has a delicate fragrance, penetrating, lasting, and sweet. A vase filled with them would perfume a large drawing-room with its delightful odor. First Prize Peony, National Peony Show, Cleveland, Ohio, as the best peony introduced since 1910. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$5.00.

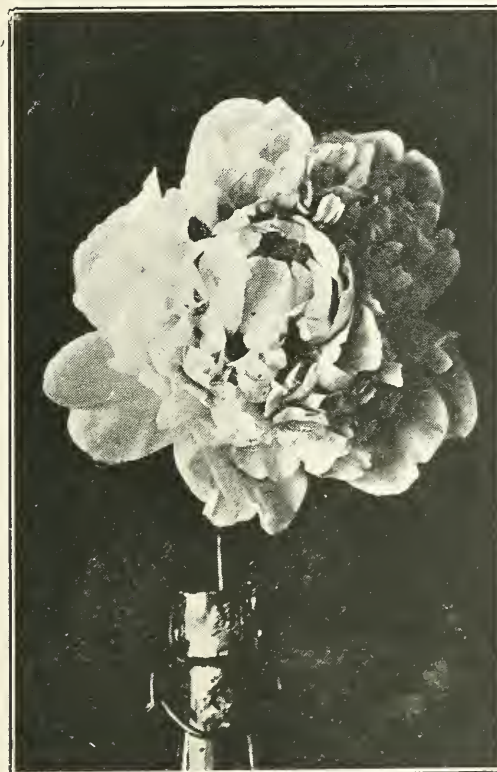
Duluth, Minn.: *I never cared for the cone-shaped peony, but Chestine Gowdy this year impressed me as one of the most beautiful flowers of any kind that I have ever seen.*

Denver, Colo.: *I am glad to tell you that we have our first bloom today. It is Chestine Gowdy, with two flowers out and one bud. We are delighted with it, the color is so delicate and the fragrance delicious.*

**E. B. BROWNING.** (Brand 1907.) 29—9.2. White. Flowers large to very large, semi-rose type. Blooms in the bud appear pure glistening white, with outer petals heavily striped crimson. As the buds develop the marvels of this wonderful flower commence to assert themselves. In the stage of the opening bud the flower remains three or four days, and the unopened bud, about to burst, assumes gigantic size, often being as large as the expanded blooms of other fair-sized varieties. Having paused thus, the flower slowly opens, and the wonderful treasures hidden within slowly unfold. The outer petals draw gradually back, disclosing a loosely, artistically arranged mass of large crinkled petals. The beauty of this flower lies in the immense size of the blooms, the artistic shape and arrangement of the petals, and the delicate and wonderful coloring within. For, starting with the tips of the petals and gazing deep into its throat, we see the color gradually deepening towards the innermost recesses of the flower. The inner surface of the petals is washed with the most delicate pinkish canary. The perfume of the flower is strong and sweet. Although not as profuse as some of our varieties, still a good bloomer. Season of blooming late, with Marie Lemoine. In the vote taken by the American Peony Society, Browning was one of a group of four flowers that stood ninth highest on the entire list, stamping it as one of the world's greatest peonies. To produce the best results must be grown in rich, well drained soil. We call this and Martha Bullock our two finest flowers. S. D. \$6.00, L. D. \$15.00.

McLean, Illinois: *My Elizabeth Barrett Browning plant gave two wonderfully beautiful blossoms this, the first year. The form was, I imagine, typical and the coloring most exquisite. When anyone of my family wishes to present me with a gift, I think I shall suggest your Browning peony, for one plant of it is wholly insufficient.*

**ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.** (Brand 1907.) 21—7.6. **Prize Peony.** Pink. Markedly bomb-shaped, with very interesting variations in details. Deep shell-pink. The elevated cup-shaped center, which is enclosed by a row of irregular crimson, tipped petals, is surrounded by many rows of irregular fringed petals, the outer ones



ELLA WHEELER WILCOX



sometimes becoming a rich cream. Around the central mass are many rows of fringed petals becoming reflexed. Unusual in its form and varied coloring. Good cut flower. Very fragrant. Late. A remarkable variety. L. D. \$1.00.



HARRIET FARNSELEY

**FANNY CROSBY** (Brand 1907.) 11—7.5. Yellow. One of the finest yellow peonies ever produced. Flower of medium size, produced in great profusion in immense clusters. Guard petals a lovely shade of delicate pink, surround a medium sized bomb of deep lemon yellow narrow incurved petals that some years are heavily tipped white. Fanny Crosby holds its yellow color in the field much better than does Primivere. Plant of good habit, stems medium height and straight. L. D. \$4.00.

**FARIBAULT.** (Brand 1918.) 14—8.2. Deep pink Here is a peony that I have watched for years. Selected from our first seed bed in 1904 as a flower of the second class. Planted out with over 200 seedlings so classed, and upon its second blooming after transplanting, re-selected as of the first class, and so classed ever since. We have had this variety under constant test and observation since 1904, having planted it in six different soil locations. Its uniform good behavior has caused us to introduce it.

Rose type, entirely transformed. Color deep rose with a silver sheen. A peculiar shade of rose that makes everyone who sees it want it as being something strikingly different from any other rose shade they have before seen in a peony. Collar a trifle lighter than the guards. Center petals silver tipped. Total color effect of a number of blossoms is that of blending shades of rose. Fragrance mild. Blooming season with Marie Lemoine. Habit of plant good, medium height and compact. Stems 28 inches long, and of good strength. A very free bloomer, with large-sized blossoms.

Extra good as a cut flower. Makes a very striking display under artificial light. The color effect is peculiar where a bouquet of this variety is made up of blooms in different stages of development. There is such a variety of shades that were you not familiar with the flower you would swear that there were before you as many different varieties as flowers. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$5.00.

**FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.** (Brand 1907.) 18—8.1. White. Plant, tall strong grower, foliage deep green and clean. Flower of medium size, petals rose shaped, absolutely pure white with an occasional faint tracing of red. This flower because of its pure, delicate and fascinating beauty is well worthy of the name of that remarkable woman who did so much to bless mankind. A splendid cut flower, pure white, remarkably fine in bud, and thus extremely valuable as the latest of all good late whites for cut flower purposes. L. D. \$1.00.

**FRANCES WILLARD.** (Brand 1907.) 31—9.1. Prize Peony. White. A perfectly formed flower. Petals of varying sizes form a very large rounded flower often having a raised cup-shaped center enclosing golden stamens. Opens an exquisite bluish white with an occasional carmine touch, changing on the lawn to pure white. As a cut flower, it remains a pinkish cream. Although delicate in appearance, it is of good substance and an excellent cut flower. Altogether it is a wonderful combination of strength and delicacy; in our opinion a better peony than the Baroness Schroeder. It has a better and a stronger habit of growth, better and stronger perfume, and lasts better, either on the lawn or as a cut flower. It is the best flower of its type yet produced. One of the world's 22 most beautiful peonies. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$5.00.

**HARRIET FARNSELEY.** (Brand 1916.) 9—8.2. Pink. Rose type. flowers of large size borne one to a stem. A beautiful soft pink of the color and type of Mad. Emile Galle, but later and of better substance. A very beautiful variety that is in bloom with Rubra Grandiflora. The most of the very late peonies are not first class in quality, but this is a gem. L. D. \$1.00.

**HENRY AVERY.** (Brand 1907.) 16—8.5. Light pink. With a stock of sufficient size to permit of a satisfactory judging of the merits of this variety, we have come to the conclusion that in Henry Avery we have one of the very choicest of peonies. The plant is of medium height and midseason in period of blooming. Flowers large to very large. General color effect pinkish creamy white. Guard petals large and prominent, enclosing a great ball of large rose type petals of the same even color as the guards. Between the guards and the central petals is a very distinct collar running from an inch to an inch and a half in width, of deep bright yellow petals. This collar gives the flower a very striking appearance, as the petals are a real deep yellow. Fragrance delicate and very pronounced. If you are looking for something very refined in beauty, you will not be disappointed in Henry Avery. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

**H. F. REDDICK.** (Brand 1913.) 9—7.8. Red. Large, semi-rose, brilliant, dark crimson, with golden stamens showing among the petals. Medium height. One of our best dark reds. It has the same irresistible and indescribable brilliancy of red as Mary Brand, which the intermingled yellow stamens tend to heighten and accentuate. This variety is sometimes preferred by those fanciers who admire the commingling of the yellow with the red. Its fine habit of growth, its beautiful blossoms, and its profuse blooming habit make of it a variety which every collector should have. H. F. Reddick will produce the most cut flowers of any red we know of. L. D. \$1.00.

**JUDGE BERRY.** (Brand 1907.) 24—8.6. Prize Peony. Pink. Large to very large, opening back, flat, semi-rose type. The bud opens pink, the petals open farther and farther back until it becomes a great flat disk of variegated pink and white bloom of surpassing beauty, seven to eight inches in diameter. Ground color white, washed with soft, delicate pink. Petals narrow, long, and fringed, with some stamens intermingled. Medium tall, Very profuse bloomer and always good. Very early and possesses a very delicate, though charming fragrance. This flower is the best of its season. It is a great mass of loveliness at the very beginning of the peony season, when most of the other varieties are apt to be medium or small, which makes it stand out very distinct and adds much to its desirability. It is singly attractive on the lawn, and where a massive effect is desired for interior decorations, it is simply superb. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

Los Gatos, Calif.: *The fine peony roots that you sent me last September have all bloomed and I am more than pleased with them. Two plants bore five flowers, one bore three flowers and all the others two flowers each. Judge Berry, less than a year old, bore five superb flowers, and we thought it among the most beautiful of all I had. I think it is wonderful.*



**LONGFELLOW.** (Brand 1907.) 33—9.0. **Prize Peony.** Red. A bright crimson with a cherry tone. Perhaps the most brilliant of all the red peonies. Ever since we selected this variety from our first seed bed in 1904 down to the present moment I have always claimed that it was the best dark red peony in existence, bar none. At the time our first seed bed was in bloom we had daily many visitors to our grounds to see this wonderful sight of nearly eight thousand seedling peonies in bloom at once. The bed contained many dark reds scattered promiscuously all over it. But there was one plant, the bloom of which was so striking in its color, so much brighter than that of any other red, and there were probably 300 deep reds in different shades, in bloom at the time, that even the most casual observer could pick this one out. One day a gentlemen drove up from town and around the bed. Stopping at the southwest corner and pointing ten rods across the flowers to the northeast corner of the bed, he said to my father, who was with him: "Do you see that bright red way across in the corner there, that red that is so much brighter and finer than any of the other reds? Well, I will give you ten dollars for that plant." "No," my father replied, "a hundred times ten dollars wouldn't buy that plant; it isn't for sale." That plant was Longfellow, at that time an unnamed seedling blooming for the first time. And ten dollars was at that time an almost unheard of price for a peony. Mary Brand, now generally credited with being the best dark red, is a larger flower than Longfellow, but the flower is not so delicately beautiful in the symmetrical arrangement of its petals and in its general form, and is not near so bright in color. The plant is also desirable in having good, clean foliage, good habit of growth, long, stiff stems, and good clean roots.

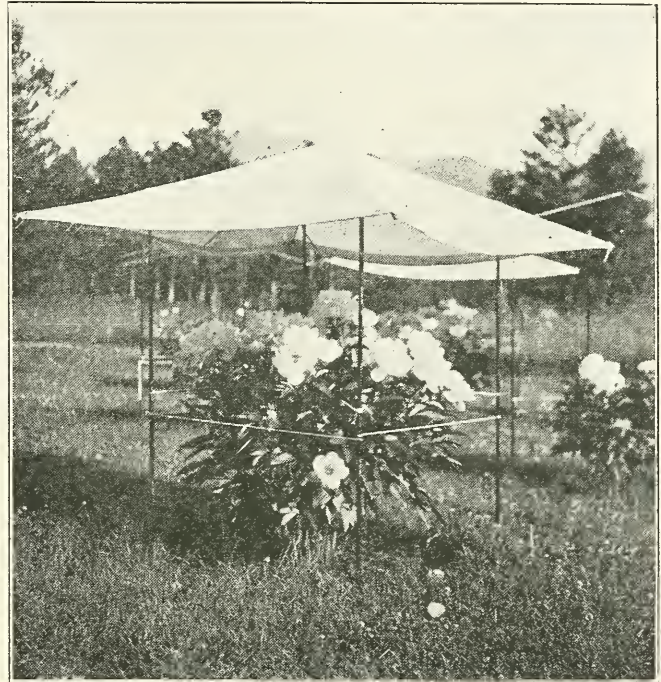
Longfellow is a great flower, and I am not afraid to prophesy that for years to come it will stand at the head of all deep bright reds.

Longfellow is given special mention in the report of the Secretary of the American Peony Society, in the report of the Philadelphia show. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

**Tamworth, N. H.:** *I grow my small collection, containing only real aristocrats, under awnings which were described and figured in Horticulture. This is necessary owing to the fierce actinic rays of this region, and violent storms. I took the cover off Longfellow to see what happened to the color. No change! Believe me that is some red, neither to blacken or fade.*

**LORA DEXHEIMER.** (Brand 1913.) 22—8.4. **Prize Peony.** Red. Immense, cylindrical, semi-rose. Intense flaming crimson shading darker at base of petals. Medium height, stiff stems holding but a single bloom, rigidly erect. Prodigious bloomer. Early. A splendid peony, of the same flat type as Triomphe de L'Ex. de

Lille, so hard to find in this color. The splendid habit and bright color of this plant have marked it with us as of exceptional merit since we first selected it from the seed bed in 1904. Each succeeding year has but added to our good opinion of it. Of the first class. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.



Growing Fine Peonies Under Shade

**Putnam, Conn.:** *The balance of the order for peony roots was received Saturday night following their shipment Monday. I have to thank you for more than fulfilling your promise as to quality of stock. It is superior to anything I have ever received.*

**Clinton, Iowa:** *I want to take this opportunity of expressing to you my appreciation of the splendid manner in which you filled my order, and to say without hesitation that I have never purchased such large, fine peony roots from any source. I want to especially thank you for the extra ones sent. If I can have the assurance that I will receive in the future as good stock as you have sent me it will be difficult for any other grower to tempt me. I now have over 130 varieties and hope next fall to add quite a number more. I want to take this opportunity to repeat that you have certainly served me very well indeed, as all stock received has been better than you promised and is most satisfactory in every way.*

**Dekalb Jct., N. Y.:** *The box of peonies and iris reached me in fine condition. I wish to thank you for the fine large roots sent. Am looking forward to the time when I shall see the beautiful blossoms.*



JUDGE BERRY, on One Year Old Plants in Los Gatos, Cal.



**LOUISA BRAND.** (Brand 1913.) 9—7.8. Pink. Medium sized, deep, cone-shaped bloom, semi-rose type. Color an exquisite blush white, fading to white. The blossom as it opens resembles a beautiful pink water-lily. The center surrounded by broad,



LOUISA BRAND

drooping guard petals, gradually rises, the petals expand and the blossom becomes a tall delicate cone of glistening pink petals intermingled with golden stamens. A visitor from a distance to our gardens, a lover of the peony, looking over the new varieties, when he reached this sort, said: "There is something wonderful! It has well repaid me for my trip." Very late. Tall, clean foliage, good bloomer, fragrant. L. D. \$1.00.

**LUETTA PFEIFFER.** (Brand 1916.) 7—8.4. Pink. Several years ago, on passing up and down the rows of one of our many seedling trial beds, my eye was arrested by a very fine almost single very light pink peony of immense size. I marked the plant, and in the fall lifted and divided it and planted it out. I was not overly impressed with the flower as it bloomed during the years that followed this transplanting, and yet there was something about it that always caused me to pause and examine it as I passed. When these plants became three years old I again lifted and divided them. The second year after this last division one day just after this variety was at its best, Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiffer of Winona happened to visit me to inspect the peonies. Mrs. Pfeiffer was very much impressed with this peony when she saw it,—so much so that before they left they had purchased of me the entire stock for what I thought at that time a large sum. The flower was named Luetta Pfeiffer for Mrs. Pfeiffer. The next day a visitor to my fields, seeing it, offered me as much for a single division of it as I had sold the entire stock for. After letting the stock go I purchased a root from the Pfeiffers and planted it in my trial garden. This I watched through the years, and each year I became more and more favorably impressed with the flower. I have paid the Pfeiffers fully twenty times what they originally paid me for the variety for stock of it that we have purchased back. Verily I believe this was a real treasure ship that I allowed to pass in the night.

Luetta Pfeiffer on the one show plant which I have had for the last five years has invariably produced some wonderful flow-

ers, blooms that are always the most sensational of any on the field at the time they were in bloom.

Our honest opinion is that Luetta Pfeiffer is one of the finest of all peonies.

Luetta Pfeiffer is a very large semi-double, pinkish white. The foliage is large and clean, the stems are long and stout, and the blooms, which are of the very largest size, are produced in great profusion. The petals are long, broad, of great substance, a pure hydrangea pink interspersed with just enough golden stamens to make the flower fascinating and very beautiful. In season it is early.

We have now accumulated a splendid stock of the variety and offer it without hesitation to all critical lovers of the peony as one of the world's very best peonies. S. D. \$9.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**MARTHA BULLOCH.** (Brand 1907.) 36—9.1. Prize Peony. Pink. Mammoth cup-shaped blossom often 9 to 12 inches across. The largest of the good peonies. Deep rose-pink in the center, shading to silvery shell-pink in the outer petals. Stalk strong and erect. The most striking and distinct of all our seedlings. The delicate shadings of this wonderful flower from soft shell-pink on the outside to a deep rose pink in the center, may be imagined but cannot be described. The plant itself seems to realize the beauty of its flowers, since it puts forth a strong, stiff stem which supports these mammoth blossoms proudly above the foliage as if to say to the floral world, "Match me if you can." It surpasses everything of its color for landscape purposes. This, unlike most large peonies, is a fine and delicate structure with a strong and agreeable fragrance which makes it most desirable and effective as a cut flower. A single flower on a tall stem, in a graceful crystal vase, produces a charming effect in the drawing room or on the library table. Where a peony of enormous size, delicate structure, with soft, well blended colors and having a delicate fragrance is desired, it can be found in the highest degree of perfection in Martha Bulloch. One of the judges of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society flower show, a collector and a recognized connoisseur, made this remark: "I awarded Martha Bulloch first prize and consider it one of the finest peonies in existence, gigantic in size and exquisitely beautiful." S. D. \$7.00, L. D. \$20.00.

Chambersburg, Pa.: I now have Martha Bulloch, E. B. Browning, Fanny Crosby, Frances Willard, Archie Brand, Chestine Gowdy, Faribault, Harriet Farnsley, Judge Berry, Moses Hull, Mrs. Carew, Phoebe Carey, Ruth Brand, Wm. Penn, Brand's Magnificent, H. F. Reddick, Longfellow, Mary Brand, Midnight, Prince of Darkness, Lora Dexheimer, Richard Carvel, Old Silver Tip—what very large, full ones have I missed?

Onawa, Iowa: Received the nice division of Mrs. Jennie R. Gowdy which you sent. When you are ready to sell any of the other new varieties, will be glad to receive prices on same.

**MARY BRAND.** (Brand 1907.) 27—8.7. Red. No red peony ever attained such favor so quickly as has Mary Brand. Flowers very large, semi-rose. Medium height and midseason. A very profuse bloomer. The popular verdict has declared this, everything taken into consideration, the best bright dark red peony in cultivation. No matter who we take through our fields nor how many times we pass Mary Brand, it is always the same. Visitors will exclaim, "There, that is the red that I want." Immensely productive. Has no equal as a cut flower. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$5.00.

**MIDNIGHT.** (Brand 1907.) 22—7.3. "The Black Peony." Dark red. Large, loose, semi-rose type, deep maroon, plume-shaped flower. Large flower, borne on long, stiff stems. Beautiful in mass, or in contrast. Magnificent cutting variety. Medium early, just before Longfellow. It is a question as to which is the better peony, Midnight or Prince of Darkness. Midnight is a trifle the largest, and when grown side by side shows darker. But both should be in every good collection. Two magnificent varieties. L. D. \$1.00.

**MOSES HULL.** (Brand 1907.) 5—8.1. Pink. Dark shell-pink or rose, very large and full, loose cupped, tufted, petaloids somewhat mottled, ends of petaloids nearly white. Some blossoms 9 inches across. A remarkable flower. One of the wonders of Nature's



marvelous work. Midseason. Fragrance delicate and fine. L. D. \$2.50.

**MRS. A. G. RUGGLES** (Brand 1913.) 8—8.2. Pink. Large to very large, semi-rose. Ground color white, delicately suffused



MRS. A. G. RUGGLES

with lilac, gradually fading to white. Flower opens out flat. Petals long and fringed. Plant strong. Late. Here is a wonderful flower. A visitor to my grounds a few years ago who came clear across the continent to see these flowers, and who is one of the best peony men in America, said to me while we were admiring the peony Mrs. A. G. Ruggles: "Mr. Brand, I wish to tell you how I rank your peonies. Martha Bulloch first, Frances Willard second, Mrs. A. G. Ruggles third."

Last season we had Therese and Mrs. A. G. Ruggles standing next to each other in the same row. The Therese came first and were plainly staked. When the two varieties met in the row the plants were so tall that the foliage covered the Mrs. A. G. Ruggles stake. The two varieties were in bloom at the same time. We had many visitors, critical peony people, see this row of bloom and take the entire row for what they called "the most beautiful Therese they had ever seen."

Flowers come in great clusters. But the variety must be disbudded to get the best results. One of the very best peonies in cultivation. Sweet scented. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$7.50.

**MRS. CAREW.** (Brand 1907.) 9—7.8. Pink. Large, full, rose-shaped flower often seven inches in diameter. Delicate, silvery blush, some inner petals with carmine edges. Often blooms in clusters of four to six. Excellent for cutting. This peony is named for the composer of the music for Longfellow's "Bridge." L. D. \$1.00.

**OLD SILVER TIP.** (Brand 1918.) 12—7.6. Red. So named because of the very marked silver effect on the edges of the petals as the blooms open, and which gives a very beautiful, iridescent effect to the color of the flowers as you stand and look up a row of this variety, with its silvered petals gently moving in the wind.

Old Silver Tip is a wonderful profuse blooming flower, semi-rose type. Flowers of large size produced on compact growing plants of medium height and midseason. Color a soft madder-red with a pronounced silver sheen on petals as the flower develops. Both a good cut flower and good for landscape values. A very desirable sort that through the many years I have had it under test has universally produced an abundance of first class, good-sized bloom. L. D. \$1.00.

**PHOEBE CAREY.** (Brand 1907.) 18—8.8. Pink. This variety was introduced in 1907, but was so good that before we were

aware of it almost our entire stock was gone. We immediately removed it from our sale list, and since then have gradually built up our stock again until we now have a fair supply of plants to offer our customers. Phoebe Carey is one of the strictly finest peonies in existence. One of the most discriminating peony men in the country said of this variety last year when he saw it. "It is in a class with Therese. I must have it."

True rose type. Petals large, broad and of good substance. Flower large, flat, slightly cupped. Color a beautiful rose pink, with center slightly deeper in shade. Fragrance very pleasant. In season with Marie Lemoine. An erect, tall growing variety with an abundance of clean, light-green foliage. A peony that takes with everyone who sees it. Should be in every collection. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

Indianapolis, Ind.: *Regarding the fourteen peonies that I bought of you this spring. They arrived in fine condition and ten of them bloomed, which, I think, is a good proof of the worth of the plants. I like them all, and especially "Chestine Gowdy." I am now looking forward to next spring, when my plants will be large enough to have several fine blooms. Richard Carvel and Mary Brand, which I bought of you last fall, bloomed this spring, and I liked them better than any reds I have yet seen.*

**PRINCE OF DARKNESS.** (Brand 1907.) 19—7.6. Red. Large, loose, semi-rose. A rich, dark maroon peony of the typical semi-rose type. One of the very darkest peonies in cultivation. Petals slightly fringed with darker shadings on the edges. Opens early and lasts long. Free bloomer. Excellent for landscape effect and for cutting. It is a question whether this variety is not just as good and dark as Mons. Martin Cahuzac. L. D. \$1.00.

**RICHARD CARVEL.** (Brand 1913.) 36—8.8. Red. Immense globular bomb. Flower bright, all one shade of crimson. Guard petals large, broad and prominent. Center petals gathered into an immense central dome. Early, tall, very stout stems, annual and profuse bloomer. What Mons. Jules Elie is to pinks, this variety is to the early crimsons. One of the earliest to bloom. On account of its extra early blooming qualities, large size and blending qualities, this variety has already become a well established favorite. The demand is increasing from year to year. A single plant on the lawn is attractive and delightful. It is beautiful and lasting, and on account of its delicate fragrance, is val-



RICHARD CARVEL, from One Year Old Plant



uable as a cut flower. The best of all early dark reds. The odor of most reds is offensive, but the odor of Richard Carvel is pleasant and pronounced, a very desirable quality in a red flower. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**RUTH BRAND.** (Brand 1907.) 18—8.1. Pink. Very large, compact bomb. Guard petals prominent, enclosing a grand ball of compact center petals. A uniform, soft lavender pink, splashed with deep lavender. Tall stems, fine, graceful and strong holding but a single bloom. Midseason. Very beautiful in bud. A splendid variety to cut. Has a delicate and pleasing fragrance. This flower was selected as superior to all others of its color on account of the waxy quality of its petals and the delicate and artistic distribution of the colors. The marked distinction claimed for this flower is that which would distinguish the work of a skillful artist from the work of the ordinary painter using the same colors. Other flowers have the same colors and some of them almost the same proportion of colors, but none of them has the delicate blending and delicate shading shown in this wonderful flower. L. D. \$2.50.

**SISTERS ANNIE.** (Brand 1907.) 9—7.4. Pink. Large, semi-rose Ground color a delicate sea-shell pink heavily suffused with a deep rose. Edge of petals fringed. A beautiful flower of the deep, flat type, with stamens showing among the petals. Tall, stout stems, medium season. L. D. \$1.00.

## New 1922 Introductions

We are introducing this year three new peonies. We have had these under test for many years and consider them real acquisitions to the list of good peonies. *Desire* and *Mrs. Jennie R. Gowdy* are both splendid pinks,—the first dark and the other light in color. *David Harum* is a red of a very peculiar and attractive shade. From the very favorable reports of it that we are receiving from a few customers to whom we sent it out early we anticipate that it will soon rank with the other good reds that we have sent out.

**DAVID HARUM.** (Brand 1920.) Large bright red. Flower large, full and beautifully formed. Guard petals prominent and well expanded. Stems tall, straight, strong. Foliage broad, light, green

**WINNIFRED DOMME.** (Brand 1913.) 10—7.8. Red. It very often happens that the true value of a peony is not recognized until long after its introduction. Such is what has happened in the case of Winnifred Domme. This flower was introduced in 1913 at just about the time notice was beginning to be taken of Mary Brand, Longfellow, and those other reds of ours mostly introduced in 1907. And it is hard to interest people in so many reds at one time, no matter how good they may be. But I do not care how many good reds you may have, there is still room for a Winnifred Domme. Most all reds have a trace of purple or blue, which dull their color effect. Winnifred Domme is red with the purple almost entirely eliminated. It is the nearest scarlet of all peonies. A medium sized bomb type flower with very prominent guard petals. Plant dwarfish, stems strong, erect and producing a single bloom each. Very profuse and always good. An intense scarlet red. A new color in the peony. A flower that when it receives its true appreciation will be rated in the 9 to 10 class. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**WM. PENN.** (Brand 1907.) 11—7.9. Rose. Immense, compact, semi rose type. Color light rose, changing to a more delicate rose at edge of petals. Edge of petals notched. Plant of medium height, strong grower, lavish bloomer. Blooms are of such gigantic size that the strong stems need support to keep the flowers from the ground. Notwithstanding the great size of the blossoms they are of wonderous beauty. The most massive of all good peonies. L. D. \$1.00.

and clean. Profuse bloomer. A distinct flower of a distinct shade of red. Very fine. S. D. \$9.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**DESIRE.** Brand 1922.) Pink. We exhibited this variety at the Minnesota State Horticultural Society show in 1913, where it was awarded first prize in a very large entry of new varieties. We are just now offering it for sale for the first time. Plant of medium height with good, clean, light green foliage. Flower medium size, rather open. Petals long. Color a delicate mauve. A very beautiful flower. Midseason to late. L. D. \$1.00.

**MRS. JENNIE R. GOWDY.** (Brand 1920.) Pink. A very large flower with long narrow pinkish white petals minutely flecked with red like Asa Gray, with several heavy blotches of carmine on the central petals. General appearance of flower would be called ruffled. The ruffled peony. Very beautiful. S. D. \$7.00, L. D. \$20.00.

## Single Varieties

Of the thousands of single varieties that have appeared in our seedling beds, so few have seemed to us worthy of cultivation that we have given little attention to the class as a whole. But occasionally a single occurs that combines marked distinction of form and color with a strong stem and perfect plant habit. In all the years we have been selecting out varieties from our seedling beds, we have chosen only four singles for propagation.

We are now listing these together with the Dessert variety, *ALBIFLORA*.

**ALBIFLORA.** (Dessert 1902.) White. Very large, single white, with long yellow stamens. Fragrant. Tall, very early. Free blooming in clusters. A third larger bloom than the ordinary Albiflora. L. D. \$2.00.

**DARKNESS.** (Brand 1913.) Red. Single, large. Color very dark maroon with darker markings in lower half of petals which

surround a bold cluster of golden stamens. Tall, strong stems. Good bloomer. Very early. An exceptionally good cut flower. Its charm of blending colors and its delightful fragrance make it particularly choice for cut flowers. L. D. \$5.00.

**HARRIET OLNEY.** (Brand 1920.) Pink. Flowers large Petals long, broad and shapely. Color a soft rose, combining attractively with the prominent yellow center. Stems of medium length and perfectly straight hold the large flower erect. Midseason. Very good. Not for Sale.

**MELLEN KNIGHT.** (Brand 1920.) Red. A tall straight growing plant with dark reddish stems, which are strong enough to hold the flowers well up. The petals, long, narrow, and evenly rounded on the edges, give the flower a beautiful appearance, both on close examination and from a distance. Color a bright, rich crimson. Extra good. Not for sale.

Aberdeen, S. D.: I beg to enclose check for \$18.00 to cover enclosed state-

ment. The peonies came in fine condition and were more than satisfactory. I want to thank you for the kindly interest you took in their selection, and hope I may be able to send you more business next year.

Northville, Mich.: At the close of this planting season I desire to tell you how much I valued and appreciated some things in our business relations. First, the size and excellent condition of all the stock supplied. Second, the advice and help in your letters written in response to my questions (sometimes asked in what must have been your busy season.)

Lincoln, Neb.: Thus far the peony roots from you have been superior to any others we have had, and we have ordered from the best growers in the country.





A Field of Three-Year-Olds, Frances Willard in the Center

## Brand's List of Selected Peonies

**ADOLPHE ROSSEAU.** (Dessert & Metchen.) 56—8.5. Red. Very large blooms. Semi-double. A deep purple garnet with metallic reflex. Tall, stiff stems. One of the best early dark reds. L. D. \$2.00.

**ALBA SULFUREA.** (Calot 1860.) 17—6.5. White. Large, splendidly built bomb-shaped flower. Guard petals prominent and pure white, center sulphur yellow. Flowers held erect on stiff stems. Our stock of this variety is pure. Splendid cut flower. L. D. 50 cents.

**ALBATRE.** 62—8.7. White. A very large milk-white flower of perfect form. Base of petals reflect a soft yellow. A few of the central petals are delicately edged with carmine. Strong grower, profuse bloomer, fragrant. Late midseason. Extra fine. Same as Avalanche. L. D. \$1.00.

**ALBERT CROUSSE.** (Crousse). 58—8.6. Pink. Very large, compact, bomb-shaped blossom. Rose white with fleck of crim-

son. Tall, erect, profuse bloomer. Fragrant. One of the most striking of all peonies. L. D. \$1.00.

**ALEXANDER DUMAS.** (Guerin 1862.) 35—7.1. Pink. A brilliant pink, interspersed with salmon, white and chamois. Early, very profuse bloomer, and very rigid plant. One of the greatest bloomers of all. L. D. 50 cents.

**ALEXANDRIANA.** (Calot 1856.) 20—7.1. Pink. Very large full flower, rose type. Light violet rose. Very fragrant. A strong, upright grower. One of the most dependable early pinks for cut flower purposes. L. D. 50 cents.

**ALSACE LORRAINE.** (Lemoine 1906.) 41—8.8. White. Semi-rose type, late midseason. Supposed to have the same parentage as La France, having the same habit of growth as that famous variety; growth erect, upright, with the foliage standing off in a marked way from the plant. Very

large imbricated flowers in clusters. The petals are pronouncedly pointed and the center petals are arranged like those of a water lily. The color is a rich creamy-white, center of the flower is delicately tinted brownish-yellow. One of the best and most highly prized of the new French varieties. L. D. \$3.50.

**A. M. SLOCUM.** (Franklin.) Rose type. White with central petals slightly edged with crimson. A few intermingled stamens give the bloom a creamy effect. Vigorous. Free bloomer. S. D. \$10.00, L. D. \$20.00.

**ASA GRAY.** (Crousse 1895.) 59—8.1. Pink. Midseason. Large, imbricated, rose formed bloom. Guard petals salmon flesh, very full and perfect in form. Color lilac, touched with minute specks of deeper lilac. Very striking in appearance. A prolific bloomer, fragrant and distinct. L. D. \$1.00.

**AUGUSTIN d'HOOR.** (Calot 1867.) 49—7.8. Red. (Syn. Marechal McMahon.)





ELLA CHRISTIANSEN, Brand Peony

**Bomb type, midseason.** Extremely large, showy, perfectly built bloom; primary petals narrow and built up close and high. Color very deep, rich, brilliant solferino-red or violet rose, with slight silvery reflex. Very large, very attractive and very good. L. D. 75 cents.

**AUGUST VILLAUME.** (Crousse 1895.) 36—7.3. Rose. An extra large flower of magnificent form, very compact, globular, rose type. Uniform rose color throughout, a deep rich violet rose. Fragrant. One of the very best flowers when the year is favorable to it. Took first prize in its class at American Peony Show at Cleveland, Ohio, 1918. Late. Very good. L. D. \$1.00.

**AUORE.** (Dessert 1904.) 38—8.0 White Semi-rose type. Late. Extra large, flat, loose bloom. Color lilac white with collar of milk-white flecked with crimson. Guards prominently flecked with carmine. The very center of the bloom is the same shade as the guards. Fragrant and fine. L. D. \$1.50.

**AVALANCHE.** 56—8.7. White. A very large milk-white flower of perfect form. Base of petals reflects a soft yellow. A few of the central petals are delicately edged with carmine. Strong grower, profuse bloomer, fragrant. Late mid-season. Extra fine. L. D. \$1.00.

**AVIATEUR RAYMOND.** (Dessert 1915.) 13—7.9. Red. Large, beautiful flower. Very bright cherry red, shaded garnet and brilliant amaranth. Showy. S. D. \$3.00. L. D. \$8.00.

**BALL O'COTTON.** (Franklin.) Rose type. Pure white of good substance. A medium sized flower, very fragrant. Splendid thrifty grower. S. D. \$15.00, L. D. \$30.00.

**BARONESS SCHROEDER.** (Kelway.) 79—9.0. White. Plume shaped flower with irregularly shaped petals, sometimes fringed. Opens delicate blush, changing soon to pure white. Strong grower and free bloomer. Delicate odor. Regarded as one of the world's best peonies. L. D. \$1.50.

**BAYADERE.** (Lemoine 1910.) 8.7. White. Midseason. Rose type. Creamy white, very large, of fine form and substance. Fine foliage, with strong erect stems. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$7.50.

**BEAUTY'S MASK.** (Hollis 1904.) 22—7.9. Late crown type. Large to very large. A compact flower, bluish white tinted lilac. Guards clear lilac. Collar lighter than guards and mixed with creamy petaloids. Fragrant. Good. L. D. \$3.00.

**BERLOIZ.** (Crousse 1886.) 24—7.0. Pink. Very large, compact rosette type. Light carmine rose, petals tipped silver. Tall profuse bloomer. Late midseason. L. D. \$1.00.

**BIEBRICH.** (Goos & Koenemann 1912.) Pink. A large, flesh colored flower. Opens out flat. Rose type. One of the best new things seen by the writer at the Cleveland National Peony Show. S. D. \$2.00. L. D. \$4.00.

**BLANCHE CIRE.** (Dessert 1888.) 11—6.9. White. Clear, waxy cream white, medium size; crown type; fragrant, erect, medium height. Perhaps the earliest of the Alba-flora species to bloom. Fragrance delicate and agreeable. Very desirable as an early cut flower variety. L. D. 50 cents.

**BOULE de NEIGE.** (Calot 1862.) 36—8.0. Large, globular, compact, semi-rose type. Color milk white, with guards and center

flecked with crimson. Tall, erect, profuse bloomer. Early mid-season. One of the good whites. Very good. L. D. 75 cents.

**CANDIDISSIMA.** (Calot 1856.) 26—7.1. White. An attractive variety of the rose type. Guard petals creamy white; center sulphur, delicately tinted flesh, with carpeloids in center tipped green. Strong grower and free bloomer. A few days earlier than Festiva Maxima. L. D. 50 cents.

**CHARLES VERDIER.** Rose. Large rose type. Color deep rose with silver reflex. Very strong grower. Good bloomer. This is one of our most profitable late varieties. The last good kind of its color to bloom. Resembles a large rose bud. L. D. \$1.00.

**CHERRY HILL.** (Thurloew 1915.) 24—8.6. Red. Very deep garnet, with a peculiar sheen that makes the flower especially noticeable in a collection of varieties, similar in color. Stems very long and stiff. Silver medal Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and "very highly recommended" by American Peony Society. S. D. \$7.00, L. D. \$20.00.

**CLAIRE DUBOIS.** (Crousse 1886.) 61—8.7. Pink. Occasionally as one walks through a field of many different varieties of peonies he comes to a sort that as far as its all-around good qualities are concerned stands head and shoulders above its neighbors. Such a flower is Claire Dubois. Very large flower, globular, rose type. A uniform deep violet rose, tipped silvery white. Late Good plant, profuse bloomer, splendid flower. L. D. \$1.00.

**CORONATION.** (Kelway 1902.) 15—8.2. White. Very beautiful in the bud, which is tinted a delicate pink. Opens into great creamy white flowers with pale pink guard petals. Golden light radiates from base of petals. Bloom very symmetrical in form. Beautiful. Late mid-season. L. D. \$2.00.

**COURONNE d'OR.** (Calot 1873.) 67—8.1. White. Very large, imbricated blooms of perfect forms. Color milk white, reflecting yellow with golden stamens showing between the petals and adding to the brightness of the flower. Very fragrant, a splendid bloomer and a strong plant. A reliable flower in all respects. One of the finest whites in existence. Season a little before Marie Lemoine. L. D. 75 cents.

**DELACHEI.** (Delache 1856.) 43—7.1. Red. Late mid-season, compact, rose type. Deep purple, crimson reflex, a very sure and free bloomer. One of the best of the dark reds. L. D. 50 cents.

**DELICATISSIMA.** 31—7.6. Pink. Large, compact bloomer of a delicate all one color pink, borne in great profusion on erect, medium length stems. One of the best all-around peonies. Extra fine as a commercial sort. Fine to plant for low hedge where one color is desired. Mid-season. Extra. L. D. 50 cents.

**DUCHESS DE NEMOURS.** (Calot 1858.) 66—8.1. White. Crown type, early. Follows Festiva Maxima by a few days. A splendid cup-shaped sulphur-white flower with a greenish reflex that lights up the entire blossom, which gradually changes to a pure white. Exceptionally beautiful in the half-opened bud stage. L. D. 50 cents.

**DUCHESS OF TECK.** (Kelway.) 5—6.7. White. Large semi-rose type. Creamy white, with carmine touches on central pet-



als. Good strong habit and fine bloomer. One of the good ones. This is not the true Duchess of Teck. It was sold to us by Kelway as that variety. We have never been able to identify it, but since it is a splendid flower, we keep it in our list. L. D. 50 cents.

**EDULIS SUPERBA.** (Lemoine 1824.) 66—7.6. Pink. Large, loose crown type. Bright pink with slight violet shadings at base of petals. Fragrant. Early, strong and upright in habit, very free bloomer. Best early commercial pink. In latitude of Central Iowa in full bloom by Memorial Day. Also sold as L'Esperance. L. D. 50 cents.

**E. G. HILL.** (Lemoine 1906.) 28—7.8. Rose. Semi-rose type, early midseason. Very strong, upright grower with stiff straight stems. Petals are evenly shaped, opening horizontally into a gigantic flat flower markedly distinct in this respect. Very large full double flowers in immense clusters. Color a rich tyrian rose or red, which shows no trace of violet or purple, with a wide border of silver-rose. An exceedingly free bloomer, even on plants one year from division. Fragrance strong and agreeable. L. D. \$3.00.

**ELWOOD PLEAS.** (Pleas 1900.) 36—8.7. Pink. Rose type, late midseason. Comes in clusters, opening several large blooms to the stalk. Of the largest size, flat, full, double; light shell-pink. A fine flower of great size and splendid color. S. D. \$2.50. L. D. \$6.00.

**ENCHANTRESS.** (Lemoine 1903.) 36—8.9. White. Rose type, very late. Very large globular, compact flower. Color creamy-white, guards splashed crimson. Center of flower faintly flecked crimson. Delicious fragrance. Erect, tall, vigorous grower. A perfect jewel. S. D. \$3.00. L. D. \$7.50.

**EUGENE BIGOT.** (Dessert 1894.) 29—8.3. Red. Compact, globular, semi-rose type. Deep purple amaranth. Upright habit, free bloomer, large petals. Generally regarded as one of the best late red varieties. L. D. \$2.00.

**EUGENE VERDIER.** (Calot 1864.) 60—8.3. Pink. Large flower, rose type. Outer guard petals lilac white, total color effect pale hydrangea pink. Very erect, rather dwarf habit, with extra stout stems. A very fine flower. There has been a good deal of mix-up in this variety, many growers having L'Indispensable under this name. We are sending out the genuine Eugene Verdier. L. D. \$2.50.

**EUGENIE VERDIER.** (Calot 1864.) (Syn. Pottsi Alba.) 58—8.6. Pink. Semi-rose type, early. Do not confound the name of this variety and Eugene Verdier. The flower is large and fine. Its form is ideal, being flat, showing its great wealth of tints and blending of coloring to fine advantage. It opens a fresh delicate hydrangea pink with primary petals lighter, center flushed crimson. Fragrance good. Very desirable. L. D. \$1.00.

**EXQUISITE.** (Kelway.) 13—8.7. Pink. A large size flat flower of a bright warm pink, long narrow pointed petals. On well established plants. It produces splendid flowers. Very fragrant. Mid-season to late. S. D. \$7.00. L. D. \$20.00.

**FELIX CROUSSE.** (Crousse 1881.) 75—8.4. Red. Large, compact. Deep rose red. Fra-



MYRTLE GENTRY, Brand Peony

grant. Strong robust grower. Free bloomer. Called by many growers the best one-color red in cultivation. Medium season. L. D. 75 cents.

**FESTIVA.** (Donkelaer 1838.) 31—8.0. White. Rose type. Cream white with prominent crimson spots on some petals. Very fragrant. In blossom about a week after Festiva Maxima. This peony, around Chicago, goes under the name of Drop White. An excellent variety. L. D. 75 cents.

**FESTIVA MAXIMA.** (Meille 1851.) 84—9.3. White. Extra large, full, globular, rose type. Pure white, with bright, carmine flakes on the edges of the center petals, fragrant. Heavy and abundant clean bright foliage. Abundant bloom on long strong stems. Early. The most popular all-around white peony in existence. L. D. 75 cents.

**FLORAL TREASURE.** (Rosenfield 1900.) 39—7.5. Pink. Large, full, globular, rose type. Delicate pink with lavender tinge, shading lighter at center as flower ages. Fragrant. Flowers born rigidly erect on strong, stiff stems, and in great numbers. Mid-season. Same as Delicatissima. L. D. 50 cents.

**FRANCES SHAYLOR.** (Shaylor.) 11—8.7. White. A waxy cream color. The stamens are canary yellow, edged with a deep gold. They are long as petals and present a very pleasing effect. (Originators description.) Not for sale.

**FRANCOIS ORTEGAT.** (Par. 1850.) 24—6.7. Red. Large flower of semi-rose type. Dark amaranth red showing stamens. Plant of medium height. Mid-season. L. D. 50 cents.

**FRANCOIS ROSSEAU.** (Dessert 1909) 7—7.3. Red. Flower rose shaped. An intense brilliant, velvety red, showing stamens among the petals. Erect. Medium height. Early. L. D. \$4.00.

**GALATHEE.** (Lemoine 1900.) 21—8.1. Pink. A large, full, double flower, rose type. Color fleshy white. Fragrance pronounced and pleasant. A tall, strong grower. One of the very good late ones. Not for sale.

**GEORGE HOLLIS.** (Hollis 1907.) 6—7.7. Pink. Guard petals lilac white. Central petals, pale rose pink. Flowers large, medium compact rose type. Very late. L. D. \$3.00.

**GEORGE WASHINGTON.** (Hollis 1904.) 15—7.0. Red. Large, flat, loose, semi-rose type. Uniform dark crimson. A strikingly brilliant color which always attracts attention of visitors. Plant of medium height. Erect grower. Mid-season L. D. \$1.00.

**GEORGIANA SHAYLOR.** (Shaylor 1908.) 29—8.9. Pink. Mid-season. Very large flowers with extremely broad petal. Color flesh pink, center of flower fleshy-white. One of the best productions of Mr. Shaylor, who is one of America's most discriminating growers. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$8.00.

**GERMAINE BIGOT.** (Dessert 1902.) 46—8.5. Pink. Clear rose-pink with lighter flesh colored tints in the center; petals broad. Mid-season. Very good. L. D. \$1.50.

**GIGANTEA.** (Calot. 1860.) 40—8.2. Pink. Very large rose type. Delicate rose pink, center shaded darker, guards and collar tip-





HAZEL KINNEY, Brand Peony

ped with silvery white. Exquisite, spicy fragrance. Tall, free bloomer. Early. L. D. \$1.00.

**GINETTE.** (Dessert 1915.) 17—8.8. Pink. Large, imbricated cup-shaped flower. Very soft flesh pink, shaded salmon, frequently flecked carmine. Fragrant. Free bloomer in clusters. Choice. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

**GISMONDE.** (Crousse 1895.) 24—8.4. Pink. Globular, flesh colored flowers, shading to rose at the center. Fragrance very fine. Very fine. L. D. \$3.00.

**GLOIRE DE CHARLES GOMBAULT.** (Gombault 1866.) 45—7.9. Pink. Crown type, mid-season. Medium sized globular flower produced in the greatest profusion, every stem bearing one or more of their beautiful tri-colored blooms; guards and crown light rose, collar of narrow cream-white petals widening towards the center. L. D. \$1.00.

**GLOIRE DE TOURAINE.** (Dessert 1903.) 19—7.8. Red. Medium compact bomb type. Dark carmine rose. Very fragrant. Tall, erect, strong grower. Very late. Extra. L. D. \$3.00.

**GOLDEN HARVEST.** (Rosenfield 1900.) 41—7.3. Pink. Loose bomb of medium size. Guard petals lilac rose, enclosing a mass of narrow, raised center of pink carmine tipped petals. Medium height, medium strong stem. One of the best varieties to stand the hardships of the Northwest climate. Early midseason. Same as Jeanne d'Arc. L. D. 75 cents.

**GRACE LOOMIS.** (Saunders 1920.) 9.2. White. Late. Most beautiful pure white

flowers borne on long straight stems. Rose type, very full and double. A splendid new white. One of the best new things seen at the late shows. S. D. \$9.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**GRANDIFLORA.** (Richardson 1883.) 62—8.8. Pink. Very large, flat rose type. Blush white. Very fragrant. Tall, erect, strong grower. Very late. Many consider this the best late variety of its color. L. D. \$1.00.

**GRANDIFLORA NIVEA PLENA.** (Lemon 1824.) 40—8.1. White. Rose type, very early. Large globular flowers; guards milk-white; collar pure white; center, on first opening, an intermingling of white, salmon, and sulphur yellow; fragrant. Though one of the oldest varieties, it ranks among the best, and the true stock is scarce. L. D. \$1.00.

**GRAZIELLA.** (Unknown.) 13—7.0. Pink. Large and full, well-shaped bloom, guard petals lively flesh pink, center pink, canary yellow and salmon. Superb bud. Growth strong and healthy. Very free bloomer. L. D. \$1.00.

**GRETCHEN.** (Goos & Koenemann, 1911.) White. Rose type. A beautifully formed flower. Ivory white, tinted flesh. Strong erect grower of dwarf habit. Not for sale.

**HARRIET B. STOWE.** (Hollis) Midseason. Semi-rose type. Cream-white, showing yellow stamens. Very vigorous. One enthusiast said when he first saw it that he was willing to crawl on his knees from his home to the city where he had seen it in order to possess it. A wonderful white. S. D. \$9.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**JAMES KELWAY.** (Kelway.) 49—8.7. White. Very large, loose, semi-rose type. Rose-white changing to milk-white, tinged yellow at the base of petals. Strong grower, mid-season. Very double and full. Fragrance strong and pleasing. L. D. \$2.00.

**JEANNE d'ARC.** (Calot 1858.) 47—7.9. Pink. Globular bomb, developing a crown. Soft pink guard, creamy white collar, pink central crown, tipped carmine. Fragrant, free bloomer. Moderate strong grower. Early mid-season. Extra good. L. D. 50 cents.

**JEANNOT.** (Dessert 1918.) 9—8.9. Pink. Large, imbricated cup-shaped flower of fine form. Flesh pink, slightly tinged purple, with salmon pink shadings at the base of petals, changing to silvery white. Not for sale.

**JESSIE SHAYLOR.** (Shaylor.) 8—8.5. Cream. Large bloom on tall stiff stems. Fragrant. A very pleasing shade of deep cream with golden touches. Midseason. S. D. \$6.00, L. D. \$15.00.

**JOHN HANCOCK.** (Hollis 1907.) 4—7.6. Rose. Very large flower, semi-double. Deep carmine rose with distinct silvering on edge of petals. Strong grower. Profuse bloomer. L. D. \$1.50.

**JUBILEE.** (Pleas 1911.) 38—8.9. White. Rose type, midseason. The originator of this variety said of it: "Jubilee was undoubtedly the largest bloom of any that I had. It cannot be compared with anything else, as it is entirely different in form and very handsome." Delicate pink entirely enveloped in a halo of angelic white. A variety difficult to describe. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$4.00.

**JUNE DAY.** (Franklin.) Rose type. Light flesh pink, deeper towards center. Faint lavender markings on edge of some petals. Fragrant. Full, vigorous grower. S. D. \$12.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**KARL ROSENFELD.** (Rosenfield 1908.) 57—8.8. Very large, globular, compact, semi-rose type. Dark crimson. Very strong, tall, compact grower and free bloomer. Mid-season. A very brilliant and striking variety. Slightly fragrant, very agreeable. Splendid keeper as cut flower. L. D. \$2.00.

**KELWAY'S GLORIOUS.** (Kelway 1909.) 33—9.8. White. Large flowers of pure glistening white with a touch of pink on the outer petals. Sweetly scented. Kelway's best introduction. One of the very best flowers exhibited at the Cleveland Show of the American Peony Society, 1918. S. D. \$12.50, L. D. \$35.00.

**KELWAY'S QUEEN.** 33—8.8. Rose type. A large compact flower of uniform mauve, with center flecked crimson. A tall, strong grower, very profuse bloomer. Late mid-season. One of Kelway's very best. Not for sale.

**KOENIG'S WINTER.** (G. and K. 1912.) Pink. Perfectly formed bloom of very highest quality. Large, full, and compact. Soft lilac with light silvery shadings. Tall, strong stems. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$5.00.

**LADY ALEXANDRA DUFF.** (Kelway 1902.) 49—9.1. Pink. The originator of this flower describes it thusly: "Lovely French white, that is to say, not a snow-white, although when fully opened it is quite white;



in the young stage tinted with a very fresh, delicate pale shade of what is commonly called 'blush,' or palest pink. The central flower (the first to open) is a double flower of rather flattened, circular form, and the central petals have a very small touch of carmine. It is a very nicely formed flower and scented, and the plants are exceedingly free flowering and showy. The side flowers, which are freely produced and which open after the central flowers, come in semi-double saucer-shaped form, exposing the anthers. The back of the flower near the stem is flushed with pink." Tall and robust. Very scarce. One of Kelway's best. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$7.00.

**LADY BERESFORD.** (Kelway.) 14—7.8. Large pink flowers of a soft blush-pink shade. Beautiful. A good strong grower. L. D. \$2.50.

**LADY GWENDOLEN CECIL.** (Kelway 1889.) 3—7.3. White. Rose type. Late. A very delicate lavender flesh. Flower of large size and beautiful form, held well erect on strong, stiff stems. L. D. \$2.00.

**LAFAYETTE.** (Dessert 1904.) 26—7.8. Pink. Rose type, mid-season. The flowers are large, last well, and the petals are beautifully fringed; the color—a lovely shade of salmon-pink with touches of heliotrope and a delicate tinting of cerise in the reflex, giving it a striking and beautiful effect. It is one of Dessert's late productions. Very attractive; very desirable. L. D. \$3.00.

**LA FEE.** (Lemoine 1906.) 27—9.2. Pink. Crown type, early. Very large, globular flower, very compact and double. Petals very long, guards mauve-rose, collar creamy-white. Very strong, tall grower, free bloomer. Very fragrant. Not for sale.

**LA FONTAINE.** (Dessert 1893.) 5—6.9. Red. A large flower. Globular, semi-rose. Light crimson with prominent stamens. A tall, erect, strong growing plant. Mid-season. One of the good reds. L. D. \$1.00.

**LA FRANCE.** (Lemoine 1901.) 42—9.0. Pink. Rose type, late mid-season. It bears enormously large, full, rather flat, perfectly double flowers that are deliciously fragrant. Color, La France pink, as the flower ages finishing soft apple-blossom pink slightly reflecting mauve. The outer guard petals have a splash of crimson through the center, deepening at the base. The flower appears to light up and glow simply wonder fully. This is regarded by our American experts as one of Lemoine's very best productions. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

**LAMARTINE.** (Lemoine 1908.) 21—8.4. Rose. Rose type, midseason, large flowers with broad imbricated petals of great durability, color rosy-carmine. A very attractive and striking peony. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

**LA PERLE.** (Crousse 1885.) 39—8.5. White. Large cup-shaped flowers, blush white, growing a little darker around the edges. Fragrant. Midseason. Extra good. One of the very best of the earlier pink peonies. L. D. \$1.00.

**LA ROSIERE.** (Crousse 1888.) 44—8.3. White. Large flowers produced in large clusters. Petals imbricated. Straw yellow at the center, shading to a creamy white border. Fragrance pleasant. Very free bloomer. A striking variety. L. D. \$1.00.



A Third Trial Bed of Brand Seedling Peonies

**LA TENDRESSE.** (Crousse 1896.) 35—8.1. White. Rose type, early. Very full, spreading flowers of immense size in clusters, petals very thick and wax-like. Color creamy-white, changing to pure white, guards slightly splashed, center flecked crimson. Flecks are very prominent on some blooms, very slight on others. Very some blossoms, very slight on others. Very very choicest productions. L. D. \$1.00.

**LA TULIPE.** (Calot 1872.) 57—7.5. Pink. Medium large, flat, semi-rose type. Lilac white, fading to creamy white, with outer guard petals striped and center petals tipped with carmine. Fragrant. Blooms held erect on tall, straight stems. Late. Extra commercial sort. L. D. 75 cents.

**LAURA DESSERT.** (Dessert 1913.) 8.8. Yellow. Medium early. Rose type, cream white with canary yellow center. Large, erect and full. As near yellow as any yet introduced. S. D. \$6.00, L. D. \$15.00.

**L'ECLETANTE.** (Calot 1860.) 18—7.2. Red. Bomb type, midseason. Flowers very double and full, color deep, brilliant, velvety crimson. Every flower standing up straight and erect, well above the foliage. An attractive variety. L. D. 75 cents.

**LE CYGNE.** (Lemoine 1907.) 56—9.9. White. Rose type, midseason. Grows about two-thirds as tall as Festiva Maxima, with good, stiff, rigid stems; foliage darkest green of all peonies; buds borne in clusters. Very large, perfectly formed flowers with broad imbricated petals. Color creamy white with greenish luminosity at the heart, passing to a clear paper-white with age. The globular, compact type of bloom makes it easily distinguished from all others; probably the finest of all white peonies. Easily scores the six points of excellence. S. D. \$8.00, L. D. \$20.00.

**L'INDISPENSABLE.** (Origin unknown.) 40—7.3. Pink. This variety has been greatly confused with Eugene Verdier, a variety

that it in no way resembles. Large to very large, full rose type. Lilac white shading to pale violet at the center. In the east and to the south this variety waterlogs badly in the bud, but with us it is a very satisfactory flower. Occasionally a season comes that it does not open well, but as a rule it is a wonderful flower. For Minnesota, the Dakotas and Canada, one of the very best sorts. A beautiful variety. L. D. \$1.00.

**LIVINGSTONE.** (Crousse 1879.) 58—8.1. Pink. Very large, compact, perfect rose type. Beautiful, soft lilac rose, with silver tips; central petals flecked carmine. Odorless. Strong grower, of medium height, free bloomer. Late. An extra good one. L. D. \$1.00.

**LORCH.** (Goos & Koenemann.) White. Tall very compact, full rose type. Creamy white, tinted pale rose. Fine. L. D. \$10.00.

**LORD KITCHENER.** (Renault 1916.) 10—7.6. Red. Bomb type. A very early bright red. Guard petals prominent, enclosing a medium sized loosely arranged bomb of the same color. Valuable because early. L. D. \$3.00.

**LOUIS VAN HOUTTE.** (Calot 1867.) 31—6.9. Red. A medium sized flower of semi-rose type. Color carmine rose, tipped silver, with fiery reflex. Fragrant. Medium height and habit. Late. L. D. 50 cents.

**LOVELINESS.** (Hollis 1907.) 26—8.8. Pink. Hollis' best flower. Flat flowers of immense size. Hydrangea pink. Strong stems. Comes in clusters, and should be disbudded. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$5.00.

**MABLE L. FRANKLIN.** (Franklin 1919.) Rose type. Outer petals light pink. Deeper pink towards center. Inner petals slightly edged with lavender. Fragrant. A free bloomer. Fine. S. D. \$15.00, L. D. \$30.00.



**MADAME AUGUSTE DESSERT.** (Dessert 1899.) 39—8.6. Rose. Very large flower, semi rose type. Uniform violet rose, petals slightly flecked crimson. Erect, medium height, free bloomer. Early midseason. L. D. \$2.00.

**MADAME BENOIT RIVIERE.** (Riviere 1911.) 3—8.0. Rose. Very large, cup-shaped flower, with very large petals. Soft rose, shaded salmon. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$7.00.

**MADAME BUCQUET.** (Dessert 1888.) 42—7.3. Red. Large, loose, semi-rose. A uniform, very large crimson. A strong upright grower of medium height. Very free bloomer. Midseason. A very good red. L. D. \$1.00.

**MADAME CAMILLE BANCEL** (Crousse 1897.) Large globular convex flower that is very compact and full; uniform deep pink or solferino-red, with silvery reflex and salmon shadings; beautiful and distinct. L. D. \$1.00.

**MADAME CALOT.** (Mieliez 1856.) 49—8.1. Pink. Large, flesh-pink, with shell-pink shadings. Early. Very vigorous. Good cut flower sort. L. D. 50 cents.

**MADAME CROUSSE.** (Calot 1866.) 36—7.9. White. Very large, compact, finely formed flower. Snow white with center petals edged with carmine. A good all-purpose flower. Midseason. One of the best. L. D. 75 cents.

**MADAME DE GALHAU.** (Crousse 1892.) 40—7.5. Pink. Enormous imbricated flower, coming on tall, stout stems. Very soft,

fleshy pink, shaded salmon, silvery reflex. Very fragrant. A splendid late variety of fine habit and a profuse bloomer. L. D. 75 cents.

**MADAME DE VATRY.** (Guerin 1863.) 30—7.7. White. Large flowers with outer petals of flesh color and central petals buff-white with carmine stripes. A fragrant midseason free blooming variety. L. D. 75 cents.

**MADAME DE VERNEVILLE.** (Crousse 1885.) 60—7.9. Very large, finely formed anemone shaped flower. Guard petals sulphur white. Center petals rose white with carmine touches. Flower of good substance. Stems long and strong. An ideal cut flower. Later than Festiva Maxima and equal if not superior in beauty. Pleasing fragrance. We consider this one of the best whites if not the best. L. D. 75 cents.

**MADAME D. TREYERAN.** (Dessert 1899.) 31—8.2. White. Very large, flat, compact, semi-rose type. Rosy white, splashed lilac, center flecked with crimson. Erect, medium tall, free bloomer. Early. A splendid variety. L. D. \$3.00.

**MADAME DUCEL.** (Mechin 1880.) 46—7.9. Pink. A perfect formed globular bomb. Bright silver pink with a shade of salmon and silver reflex. Rank grower of dwarf habit. Free bloomer. Midseason. L. D. 75 cents.

**MADAME EMILE DUPRAZ.** (Riviere 1911.) 4—7.4. Pink. Great, large, exquisitely formed cup-shaped flower. Delicate carmine pink, shaded a deeper pink. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**MADAME EMILE GALLE.** (Crousse 1881.) 65—8.5. Pink. Large, compact, flat rose type. Delicate sea-shell pink with touches of heliotrope and lavender. Medium tall, strong, free bloomer. Fine in the bud. Late. Something choice. L. D. \$1.00.

**MADAME EMILE LEMOINE.** (Lemoine 1899.) 50—8.9. White. Semi-rose type, midseason. Enormous buds opening into extra large imbricated round flowers that completely hide the bush, each petal overlapping the other, giving the whole flower a very unusually distinctive even shade. Color on first opening glossy white, overlaid with a sheen of tender satiny pink, covered with minute lilac dots. When fully opened it is pure white. Strong grower and free bloomer; rare and beautiful. L.D. \$1.50.

**MADAME FOREL.** (Crousse 1881.) 36—7.7. Pink. Large, compact, imbricated rose type. Glossy pink with silvery reflex and deeper rose center. Medium tall, of fine habit. Very fragrant. Extra choice. L. D. 75 cents.

**MADAME GAUDICHAU.** (Billet 1909.) 16—8.8. Red. Very dark brilliant crimson. Nearly as dark as M. Martin Cahuzac, a better bloomer and a better plant. A strictly first class red. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

**MADAME GEISSLER.** (Crousse 1880.) 45—7.9. Pink. Rose type, compact, imbricated, well formed bloom on strong, erect stems. Color glossy pink, shading to bright bengal-rose on base of petals; fine large, very double, globular, imbricated, massive and imposing. L. D. 75 cents.



Four Year Plants of "Mons. Jules Elie"

Brooklyn, N. Y.: *You must have some pull with the express company. Roots shipped Sept. 20th reached me Sept. 23rd, and I must say they were the finest lot of roots I ever received from any grower. The big fat eyes on the Mons. Jules Elie were a revelation. As soon as I get ready to extend my planting I will send you another order.*

Coshocton, Ohio.: *Adolphe Rosseau and Karl Rosenfield arrived via parcel post in fine condition, and they look as though they were ready for business. This makes twenty roots from you, and they all look strong and lively.*

Washington, Ia.: *My peony order arrived in good shape. The roots were very nice, I think, and if they do as well as some I got from you last year I will be very well pleased. My Umbellata Rosea had eleven blooms and Little Sweetheart five or six, on my last year's plants.*



**MADAME FRANCOIS TOSCANELLI** (Riviere 1911.) A very large pale rose flower. Center shaded to deep salmon-pink. A strong vigorous grower. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**MADAME JULES DESSERT.** (Dessert 1909.) 47—9.3. One of the very finest of all peonies. The flowers are very large, well-formed, with great long, broad petals. Blooms are held rigidly erect on good straight stems of medium height. Color white, tinged with a very delicate pink and splashed with carmine. A few golden stamens also show to add to the beauty of an already beautiful flower. Very fine. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$8.00.

**MADAME LEBON.** (Calot 1855.) 29—6.8. Pink. Very large, compact, globular rose type. Buds very tight, opening slowly. A tall, strong grower. Cherry pink to aniline red. Fragrant. Late. L. D. 50 cents.

**MADAME LEMOINIER.** (Calot 1865.) 22—8.0. Pink. Rose type. Midseason. A large, compact flower. Color pale lilac rose, changing to lilac overcast with white. Collar cream white. Some petals flecked with crimson. Fragrant. A tall, vigorous grower of fine habit. Extra. L. D. \$1.00.

**MADAME MANCHET.** (Dessert 1913.) 11—8.0. Pink. Large, imbricated, very full flower. Silver lilac, shaded purplish pink at the base of petals. Very late. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**MADMOISELLE JEANNE RIVIERE.** (Riviere 1908.) 10—8.0. Rose. Beautifully formed flower, pale rose with sulphur-white center. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**MADMOISELLE LEONIE CALOT.** (Calot 1861.) 23—8.1. Pink. Large, typical rose type. Very delicate, rose-white, center of deeper shading, slight carmine tips, fine form, medium height, rather spreading habit. Late midseason. This is a fine favorite with many admirers. Extra fine. L. D. \$1.00.

**MADMOISELLE MARGUERITE GAUDICHAU.** (Millet 1903.) 14—8.6. Pink. A medium sized cup-shaped flower, very delicate shell-pink, with incurved petals, interspersed with yellow stamens. Fragrant. Very pretty. Late. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$8.00.

**MADMOISELLE ROSSEAU.** (Crousse 1886.) 33—8.1. Very large, full flower with broad petals. Semi-rose type. Sulphur-white with pinkish flesh-colored center. Extra strong stem, medium height, free bloomer. Strong and pleasing fragrance. A gem of the first water. L. D. \$1.50.

**MARCELLE DESSERT.** (Dessert 1899.) 30—8.2. White. Large, medium compact flower, developing a high crown. Milk-white, minutely splashed lilac, center flecked crimson. Fragrance good. Midseason. Extra fine. L. D. \$2.00.

**MARECHAL VALLIANT.** (Calot 1864.) 23—7.5. Rose. Extra large, compact, globular rose type. Dark mauve rose. Very tall plant, with coarse stem which fails to support the heavy bloom. Very late. A good variety. L. D. 75 cents.

**MARGUERITE GERARD.** (Crousse 1892.) 56—8.4. Pink. Semi-rose type, midseason. Large, flat-shaped flower with broad petals, blooming in clusters, color delicate hydrangea-pink changing as the flower ages to creamy-white. Many of the center petals

and sometimes the guards have minute dark carmine, almost black, flecks on the tips. It is one of the most admired of Crousse's collection. L. D. \$1.00.

**MARIE CROUSSE.** (Crousse 1892.) 50—8.9. Pink. Bomb type, very full, globular flowers on long, strong stems. Color soft salmon-pink, shaded in glossy, satiny lilac. An exquisite fresh coloring. A most desirable peony. L. D. \$3.00.

**MARIE JACQUIN.** (Verdier.) (Syn. Bridesmaid, Kelway, and Waterlily, Barr.) 46—8.3. White, semi-double type, midseason. Color glossy rosy-white, with rose tinge on buds, showing golden yellow stamens in the center, which give it a very chaste and elegant appearance. When first planted the blooms always come semi-double, but after becoming established it occasionally shows full blossoms with yellow stamens intermingled. The fragrance is delightful, resembles that of a waterlily. This is quite dissimilar to all other peonies, and is a prime favorite with everybody. L. D. \$1.00.

**MARIE LEMOINE.** (Calot 1869.) 67—8.5. White. Enormous, very compact. Rose type. Sulphur-white, shaded chamois, with occasional carmine tip. Erect, strong stem of medium height. The most pleasing and pronounced fragrance of any peony. Very late. It lies between Eugenie Verdier and Marie Lemoine as to which is M. Calot's masterpiece. L. D. \$1.00.

**MARIE STUART.** (Calot 1856.) 22—7.8. White. Crown type, midseason. It always comes with three flowers to the stem; first the crown or central bud opens into a good sized high built flower of pyramidal shape, the color being a delicate lavender flecked with crimson. As this flower ages it changes to a pure soft white, and then the two lateral buds open. These buds are two or three inches longer on the stem than the crown flower. They are a delicate lavender, and with the white bloom in the center this one stem forms a bouquet of great beauty. L. D. 50 cents.

**MARQUIS C. LAGERGREN.** (Dessert 1911.) 11—8.0. Red. Brilliant cherry red with darker shadings. Flowers of fine form and borne in clusters on strong, stiff stems. A splendid landscape variety, as it is a wonderful bloomer. Midseason. L. D. \$3.50.

**MARY WOODBURY SHAYLOR.** (Shaylor 1916.) Delicate clear pink guards, with a creamy center, shading to deep canary at the heart. Dwarf profuse bloomer. S. D. \$12.00, L. D. \$30.00.

**MATILDE DE ROSENECK.** (Crousse 1833.) 23—7.9. Pink. Rose type. Late. Soft flesh pink, shading deeper towards the center, with tints of lilac and chamois. Petals bordered with silver, with an occasional narrow edge of bright carmine. A tall grower. Very large blossom. A beautiful and distinct flower. L. D. \$1.50.

**MAUDE L. RICHARDSON.** (Hollis 1904.) 21—8.5. Pink. Large, medium compact flat rose type. Pale lilac rose, lighter toward the center. Stems very tall and strong. Fragrant. Form of flower very beautiful. One of Hollis's best peonies. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$4.00.

**MEISSONIER.** (Crousse 1886.) (Syn. American Beauty.) 23—6.5. Red. Bomb type, midseason. Very brilliant crimson, full double flowers on wiry stems. The coloring is wonderfully rich and brilliant. In the

Chicago cut flower market this peony is known as the American Beauty on account of the resemblance in color to the rose of that name. Also known as Monsieur Crousse. A grand cut flower. Valued chiefly as a cut flower bloom. L. D. 50 cents.

**MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.** (Pleas 1906.) 12—8.5. White. Habit of plant good and of medium height. Season medium to late. Bloom a clear ivory white. Center a pale primrose yellow. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**MIGNON.** (Lemoine 1903.) 24—3.7. Pink. A globular flower of bright pink with occasional slight crimson markings. The blooms are symmetrical and are held well above the light green foliage. Plant rather dwarf in habit. Midseason. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$7.00.

**MILTON HILL.** (Richardson.) 63—9.0. Pink. Very large, compact, beautifully formed flower of lovely shade of shell-pink. An extra fine variety of distinct pure color. One of the very best peonies. Late. L. D. \$5.00.

**MIREILLE.** (Crousse 1894.) 33—7.7. White. Large, compact, globular, rose type, milk white. Center petals very large and distinctly edged dark crimson. Fragrant. Tall, strong grower. Very late. Good. L. D. \$1.00.

**MISS SALWAY.** (Kelway.) 20—7.3. White. Very large, compact, globular flower, with a high crown. Lilac white, collar lighter. Strong, tall grower. Profuse bloomer. Extra. L. D. \$5.00, S. D. \$2.50.

**MODELE DE PERFECTION.** (Crousse 1875.) 43—7.8. Pink. Large, compact, cup-shaped, rose. Color flesh pink, marked with bright rose deepening in the center. Good erect habits. Strong stems. Wonderful bloomer. Fragrant. A very distinct and very desirable late variety. L. D. \$1.00.

**MODESTE GUERIN.** (Guerin 1845.) 47—7.8. Rose. Large, compact, bomb-shaped bloom. Extra fine bud. Bright in center of bloom. Very fragrant. Medium height, extra strong, free bloomer. Midseason. Best early of its color. L. D. 75 cents.

**MONSIEUR DUPONT.** (Calot 1872.) 57—8.3. White. An immense, perfectly formed cup-shaped flower, opening flat when in full bloom. Glistening ivory white, center petals bordered with lively carmine. Golden stamens mingled with petals throughout the flower. Deliciously fragrant. Erect, tall, wiry stems. A wonderfully prolific and annual bloomer. Late midseason, preceding Couronne d'Or. One of the very best whites. L. D. \$1.00.

**MONSIEUR JULES ELIE.** (Crousse 1833.) 78—9.2. Pink. Very large, compact bomb type. Large guard petals surrounding a great dome of incurved petals. Glossy flesh pink shading to a deeper rose at the base, the entire bloom covered with a silvery sheen. Strong stems of medium height. Very fragrant. This, in our opinion, is the most beautiful of the bomb-shaped peonies. A long keeper. L. D. \$1.00.

**MONSIEUR KRELAGE.** (Crousse 1832.) 21—7.7. Rose. Semi-rose type. Dark solferino-red with silvery tips. A very unusual color. Large flat flower with stamens prominent among the petals. Slightly fragrant. Strong, upright, free bloomer. Midseason. Very fine. L. D. 75 cents.



**MONSIEUR MARTIN CAHUZAC.** (Dessert 1882.) 62—8.8. Rose. Semi-rose type. Mid-finest peonies in cultivation. L. D. \$6.00. season. Large, full, massive, well-formed flowers; perfect solid balls of deep maroon, with garnet hues and brilliant luster. Good, erect habit, free bloomer. In great demand by those who are making collections to include all shades and want the extremes. S. D. \$2.00, L. D. \$4.00.

**MONT BLANC.** (Lemoine 1899.) 42—8.4. White. Very large globular bloom. Compact. Creamy white, slightly tinged rosy white. Early midseason. One of the very finest peonies in cultivation. L. D. \$7.50.

**MRS. EDWARD HARDING.** (Shaylor.) 13—9.9. White. A wonderful white. Received the \$100.00 prize at the American Peony Society's show at Cleveland in 1918, offered by Mrs. Harding for a new white peony of superlative merit. S. D. \$35.00, L. D. \$50.00.

**MYRTLE** (Terry) Pink. Flower large to very large. A bright delicate pink. Medium compact semi-rose type. Fragrance good. Very profuse bloomer. This we consider one of Terry's best. L. D. 50 cents.

**NINA SECOR.** (Secor). White. A beautiful new white which was shown at the London National Show and caused quite a sensation. A beautiful clear white of large size and clear deep color. Splendid form. S. D. \$9.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**OCTAVIE DEMAY.** (Calot 1867.) 42—8.5. Pink. Large flat crown, guards very delicate flesh-pink, with narrow collar of ribbon-like white petals, center deeper pink. Fragrant. Early. Habit of plant low, but good flower stems. Free bloomer and good for cutting. L. D. \$1.00.

**OFFICINALIS RUBRA.** Red. A large round bloom of vivid crimson. This is the old deep bright red peony of the old-time garden. Earliest of all good peonies. Very desirable in this latitude, as it is generally in bloom on Memorial Day. The red "piney" of our grandmother's gardens. As good as the new varieties and earlier. Nothing to takes it place. L. D. \$1.00.

**OPAL.** (Pleas 1908.) 22—8.5. Pink. Rose type. Midseason. Vigorous, tall growing plant. Profuse bloomer. Guard petals delicate pink, fading to white. Center of flower opal pink. Fine. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$6.00.

**PERFECTION.** (Richardson 1869.) Pink. Rose type, very late. Very large double flowers of perfect shape. Delicate shell-pink or lilac-white, base of petals shaded deeper. Fragrant, vigorous, upright grower. Very good. L. D. \$1.50.

**PHILIPPE RIVOIRE.** (Riviere 1911.) 28—9.2. Red. A very fine bright crimson. Beautiful in form of flower and splendid in growth of plant. The most fragrant of the red peonies. Midseason. A splendid show flower. Very scarce. S. D. \$10.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**PHILOMELE.** (Calot 1861.) 37—7.7. Rose. Medium size flower. Flat crown type. Guards bright violet rose, anemone center of tipulated narrow amber yellow petals, changing to cream; as the flower develops, a crown of bright rose appears in the center. Midseason. A strong, free bloomer, very desirable. L. D. \$1.00.

**PHYLLIS KELWAY.** (Kelway 1908.) 16—8.8. Pink. Very large, loosely built flower of exquisite beauty. Color lavender flesh, passing to white in the center. S. D. \$5.00, L. D. \$12.00.

**PIERRE DESSERT.** (Dessert.) 24—7.6. Red. Large, medium compact, semi-rose type. Dark crimson purple, silvery tipped. Medium habit. One of the earliest dark reds. L. D. \$1.00.

**PIERRE DUCHARTRE.** (Dessert 1899.) 23—8.2. Pink. Rose type, midseason. Very full, double, imbricated flowers, cup-shaped and crowded with petals, pale lilaceous flesh with glossy reflex bordered with silver. Beautiful. We consider this one of the very best of the reasonably priced peonies. L. D. \$2.00.

**PIERRE REIGNOUX.** (Dessert 1908.) Deep pink. Large medium flat, semi-rose type. Uniform light Tyrian rose, center slightly flecked crimson, petals imbricated. Dwarf, erect, medium early. L. D. \$2.50.

**PRESIDENT WILSON.** (Thurloew 1918.) 9.4. Pink. Late. A very pleasing soft pink changing to shell pink. Guards sometimes show crimson markings. One of the very best of the new peonies. Extra fine. S. D. \$25.00, L. D. \$50.00.

**PRIMEVERE.** (Lemoine 1907.) 47—8.6. Yellow. Large, prominent, creamy-white guard petals inclosing a central ball of sulphur-yellow. If cut in the bud just as it begins to open and developed inside away from the sun, the flowers will hold a canary-yellow color which is very beautiful. The best yellow today. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$5.00.

**PURPUREA SUPERBA.** (Delache 1855.) 5—6.8. Red. Large, compact bomb. Uniform dark rose. Tall; free bloomer. Midseason. The tallest red. A splendid variety to use as a background for lower growing sorts. L. D. \$1.00.

**RACHEL.** (Lemoine 1901.) Pink. A finely formed flower of a soft flesh pink. Blooms of medium size borne on strong erect stems. Very fine. L. D. \$7.50.

**RACHEL.** (Terry.) 14—7.9. Red. Medium size, semi-rose type. A bright, dark crimson plant of medium height, strong, profuse bloomer. This variety generally produces a single blossom on a stem, which makes it a good commercial sort. One of the brightest and best of all crimsons. Midseason. L. D. \$1.00.

**RAOUL DESSERT.** (Dessert 1910.) 27—9.0. Pink. A large blossom with great broad petals. Mauve with carmine pink shadings and silvery reflex. Extra choice. Not for sale.

**REINE HORTENSE.** (Calot 1857.) 40—8.7. Pink. Very large, compact, semi-rose type. Here is a truly wonderful flower. One of those flowers that when you take a visitor through your field, no matter how many good varieties he may see, he will always pick this one as one of the best. Also sold under the name of President Taft. A very tall growing variety, producing lots of large, perfectly formed flowers on long stiff stems. Color a uniform hydrangea-pink minutely splashed on a white background, with the color prominently flecked crimson. L. D. \$2.50.

**ROSA BONHEUR.** (Dessert.) 46—9.0. Rose. Large, flat rose type, with imbricated petals. Light violet rose with guard petals flecked crimson. Midseason. An erect, medium strong grower. Very fine. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$6.00.

**ROSETTE** (Dessert 1918.) 5—8.9. Pink. Pretty flower of fine shape like a Captain Christy rose, silvery flesh shading to a salmon at base of petals and flecked crimson on the edges. A splendid variety of erect habit. S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$10.00.

**RUBRA SUPERBA.** (Richardson 1871.) 43—7.2. Red. Rose type. Very late. A beautiful rich brilliant dark crimson. Without stamens. A large full double. Fragrant. One of the very best keepers of the late varieties. It is by all means the best late dark red, and every collection should have it. Rather a shy bloomer until the plants become well established. L. D. \$1.00.

**SARAH BERNHARDT.** (Lemoine 1906.) 40—9.0. Pink. Semi-rose type, late midseason, strong growing flowers of remarkable size and freshness, in huge clusters, full and almost double, of unusual perfection of form. Large petals that are imbricated in a peculiar fashion. Color apple blossom-pink with each petal silver-tipped, giving the appearance of a distinct border of pure white. Fragrance agreeable and penetrating; magnificent. This variety should not be confused with one of the same name sent out by Dessert, nor with the Umbellata Rosea, which is sometimes sold under the name of Sarah Bernhardt. S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$4.00.

**SOLANGE.** (Lemoine 1907.) 59—9.7. Cream. Rose type, midseason. Full globular flower with a compact crested tuft in the center. Color rare, and has deep orange-salmon or Havana-brown at the heart, overlaid with a delicate, tender, reddish brown. S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$7.50.

**SOLFATARRE.** (Calot 1861.) 34—7.6. White. A large medium compact bomb developing into a crown. Guard petals prominent and milk-white. Collar and center sulphur, fading to sulphur white. Midseason. Fragrant. Plant of medium height and midseason. Up to the time of the introduction of Primevere, this was the best yellow peony and even now is a very fine thing to have. L. D. 75 cents.

**SOUVENIR DE L'EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE.** (Calot 1867.) 34—7.6. Rose. Rose type, late midseason. Very large, flat flower of violet-rose with silvery reflex and distinctly tipped silver; fragrant; free bloomer with spreading habit. L. D. \$1.00.

**SOUVENIR DE LOUIS BIGOT.** (Dessert 1913.) 16—8.8. Rose. Very large, convex bloom with imbricated petals. Color a brilliant bengal rose, slightly tinged carmine at the base, turning to a salmon pink. Not for sale.

**STANDARD BEARER.** (Hollis 1906.) 17—8.8. Rose. A high built, globular, compact bomb. Uniform light violet rose. Medium tall, strong, stiff stems; very free bloomer. Resembles Madame Ducl, but twice as large. S. D. \$9.00, L. D. \$25.00.

**STRASSBURG.** (Goos & Koenemann 1911.) Rose. Very large bloom of exquisite form. Flowers very compact. Delicate lilac-rose. L. D. \$5.00.



**SULLY PRUDHOMME.** (Crousse 1898.) 6—7.7. Pink. Large, flat, medium compact rose type. Uniform pale hydrangea pink, changing to milk white. Fragrant. Midseason. A choice variety. **\$1.50.**

**SUZETTE.** (Dessert 1912.) 15—8.0 Rose. A pretty flower of fine shape. Bengal rose, slightly tinted carmine purple. Petals interspersed with golden stamens. Strong habit. **L. D. \$2.00.**

**THERESE.** (Dessert 1904.) 71—9.8. Pink. Rose type. Flowers of enormous size, produced in great quantities on stout stems. Color the most delicate rich satiny-pink, with glossy reflex. Generally conceded to be Dessert's best production. The last word in peonies. **S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$6.00.**

**TOURANGELLE.** (Dessert 1910.) 49—9.4. Pink. Rose type, late midseason. This is a vigorous grower, bearing large flat-shaped flowers, long stems, color pearly-white overlaid with delicate mauve and with shades of La France rose. Attractive and good. **S. D. \$2.50, L. D. \$6.00.**

**TRIOMPHE DE L'EXPOSITION DE LILLE.** (Calot 1865.) 42—7.8. Pink. A large compact head, often seven inches in diameter. Uniform broad petals interspersed with stamens. Pale rose pink, minutely splashed

with violet rose, guard petals fading to nearly white. Medium early. Very strong, vigorous grower and free bloomer. This is one of that wonderful type of peonies whose petals open into a horizontal position, as it were, from a central axis, and rise tier above tier until we have a blossom seven inches in diameter and three or four inches deep. **L. D. 75 cents.**

**UMBELLATA ROSEA.** (Origin unknown.) 41—7.4. Pink. Rose type, very early. Large flower, guards violet-rose, shading to an amber white center. Very strong, upright grower and free bloomer. Delightful fragrance. **L. D. 75 cents.**

**VENUS.** (Kelway.) 50—8.3. Pink. Very large, compact crown, pale hydrangea pink, large petals. Tall, free bloomer. Popular variety. **L. D. \$1.00.**

**VICTOIRE DE LA MARNE.** (Dessert 1915.) 16—8.3. Red. Attractive globular blooms of immense size. Velvet amaranth red, with silver reflex. **S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$7.00.**

**WALTER FAXON.** (Richardson.) 48—9.3. Rose. Medium size globular, semi-rose. Uniform bright rose, deepening towards the center. A delicate and distinct color. Midseason. Extra fine. **S. D. \$4.00, L. D. \$7.50.**

**WELCOME GUEST.** (Hollis 1904.) 15—7.9. Rose. Large, loose, semi-double. Bright rose, fading to rose white. Fragrant. Erect, tall free bloomer. Midseason. Very good. **L. D. \$1.00.**

**W. F. CHRISTMAN.** (Franklin 1919.) Rose type. A beautiful flesh-pink. Flowers of fine form, very large and double. Fragrant. Very free. Extra fine. **S. D. \$15.00, L. D. \$30.00.**

**WHITLEYII.** (Whitley 1908.) 8—8.5. White. Commonly called Queen Victoria. Medium size, loose globular flower with fine broad guard petals. Opens flesh white, fading to milk white. Center petals tipped with coral blotches. Fragrant. Free bloomer. Extra good in bud. The very best commercial white. **L. D. 50 cents.**

**WM. TURNER.** (Shaylor 1916.) 15—8.4. Red. A very dark crimson with a velvety sheen. Tall, strong grower. A fine flower. **S. D. \$3.00, L. D. \$7.50.**

St. Paul, Minn.: *These are dandy plants, and I shall look forward with much pleasure to the time when they will bloom next spring and the year following.*



A Bed of all Brand Varieties





## Selected Iris

### WHY THE IRIS IS SO POPULAR

Every garden must have iris nowadays. There are many reasons for the increasing demand for the iris. In the first place, the flowers are as beautiful as the rarest orchids. Their form is perhaps more distinctive and their coloring more varied. Many new varieties have been brought out in the last few years and they have given us new colors and wonderful new combinations of color. In a field of iris all shades, from the palest lavender to the deepest purple, and from the most delicate cream to the deepest gold, may be seen. Then there are pure white, delicate blue, and deep blue, pink, rose, maroon, and bronze. Now, if ever before, the flower justifies its name, iris, the rainbow.

Then it comes when the garden needs color. The blooms of the early spring bulbs have gone, the tulips are passing, and the peonies have not yet come. If varieties are well chosen and plants are suitably located and grouped, the iris furnishes a show which, while less gorgeous than that of the peony, is more varied and delicate in coloring.

There are some very practical reasons for the great popularity of the iris. It is cheap. New varieties are so quickly produced from seed and they multiply so rapidly that even the recent varieties do not long remain expensive, and the large stocks of the good old sorts make them very cheap. It brings quick results. Plants set out this year will blossom next, and they will soon form big clumps. Then too, the rules for growing iris successfully are few and easily followed.

**CULTIVATION.** Iris should be planted in a sunny location. The soil should be dry and well drained. Unlike the wild flag, the garden iris cannot stand water around the roots. It should not be planted deep. The bulb, or rhizome, should be just below the surface of the ground. The roots should be spread out and the soil packed around them. No fertilizer should touch the rhizomes. A very little well rotted manure may be applied to the surface of the ground. Bone meal and finely ground limestone are good fertilizers.

Iris soon forms big clumps with masses of rhizomes and roots, which are likely to rot. It is hard to keep grass out of these clumps. For these reasons iris should be taken up, divided, freed from grass roots, and reset once in four or five years. The best time to do this, as well as to make new plantings, is soon after the blooming season. July and August are probably the best months for planting iris but it may be planted any time during the year when not in bloom or when the ground is not frozen.

**ROOT ROT.** The only disease that the iris grower has to contend with is rot. It generally appears in warm wet season. The best way to avoid rot is to look around and find some old plaster, perhaps where a house is being torn down. Pulverize this and scatter it liberally in the trenches in which the plants are to be set. It will not hurt the plants.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR PLANTINGS.** The sunny side of a shrubbery hedge is a good place for iris. Unlike the peony, it is not likely to suffer from being robbed of moisture and food by the larger plants. It is especially beautiful with lilacs or Spirea Van Houttii as a background. All these bloom at the same time. The colors of the lilac harmonize with those of the iris and the white of the Spirea brings out their beauty.

As was suggested in the talk about peony planting, iris is a good companion for the peony in a hedge which borders a walk or drive. At first the two flowers may be alternated. Then, when the peonies have come to need all the space, the border may be widened and the iris moved to the front.

Clumps of iris are useful to give color in an herbaceous border. After the blooming season the ragged tops of the leaves may be trimmed off and the foliage of the surrounding plants will partially cover them. They will thus not be unsightly in the border.

For large grounds extensive plantings of iris will give wonderful effects. It may be planted in beds as borders of walks, drives or pools. Or beds may be arranged to form an iris garden, which will be a joy for a month or more.



In all plantings, large or small, the best results will be obtained by planting groups of one variety together, groups being so arranged as to harmonize with each other. For this reason we are offering a very low price on five of a kind.

**RECOMMENDED VARIETIES FOR BEGINNERS.**—Different varieties of iris vary greatly in strength of constitution. Some will hold their own indefinitely. Others live for a

short time, then disappear, either running out or being crowded out by others of more vigorous growth. Each of the varieties in the following list has proved lasting with us. We recommend them for beginners.

This entire list taken singly amounts to \$8.60 but we offer a root of each if the entire list is taken for \$7.50. We offer also two of each variety for \$14.00.

## IRIS

*Dark Purple*  
Kochii  
Perfection  
Rev. A. H. Wirtelle

*Reddish Purple*  
Violet Queen  
Caprice

*Blue*  
Eldorado  
Gertrude  
Pallida Delmatica  
Chester Hunt

*Pink*  
Massasoit  
Her Majesty  
Mrs. Alan Gray  
Rose Unique

*Reddish Bronze*  
Prosper Laugier

*White*  
Fairy  
Florentine Alba  
Mrs. H. Darwin

*Yellow*  
Mrs. H. S. Smith  
Sherwin Wright  
Golden Plume

*Variegated*  
Lorely  
Mme. Cherau  
Rhein Nixe



One of Our Fields of Iris

## Descriptive List of Iris

**AMBASSADEUR.** 42 inches. Late. S. smoky purple; F. velvet purple maroon. Sensation of recent shows. Award of merit Royal Horticultural Society 1921. Single root, \$4.00.

**A. E. KUNDRED.** S. yellow-bronze tinged with magenta; F. magenta red tinged with bronze, reticulated yellow from center to base. Conspicuous orange beard. Fragrant. Glorg strain. 40c. 3 for 85c.

**ALCAZAR.** S. light bluish violet; F. deep brilliant purple with bronze veined throat. A very tall grower that carries immense flowers. A very striking variety. 44 inches. \$1.00. 3 for \$2.40.

**AMAS.** A beautiful variety with immense flowers. From Asia Minor. S. rich blue; F. gorgeous purple. 24 inches. 35c. 3 for 75c.

**AMERICAN BLACK PRINCE.** S. soft lilac

purple; F. a velvety purple of the richest hue. 24 inches. 25c. 3 for 55c.

**ALBERT VICTOR.** S. soft blue; F. beautiful lavender. Large and fine. 40 inches. 25c. 3 for 55c.

**ALFRED FIDLER.** S. White; F. white shaded lavender. A very ornamental iris for mass effect. 25c. 3 for 55c.

**A. M. BRAND.** S. true golden bronze; F. maroon red, veined yellow, edged with bronze. Fragrant. Glory strain. 50c. 3 for \$1.20.

**AUREA.** S. and F. rich chrome-yellow. Large flowers of perfect form of the purest yellow. 2 feet. 25c. 3 for 55c.

**BLACK KNIGHT.** S. intense deep violet blue; F. exceedingly rich velvety purple. One of the newer iris, scarce. Very beautiful. \$1.00. 3 for \$2.40.

**A. W. BLAKELY.** S. yellow tinged with pink; F. yellow with a dividing line in the center; lighter border. 28 inches. 50c. 3 for \$1.20.

**BLUE JAY.** (Farr) S. bright, clear blue; F. intense dark blue. 35 inches. 35c. 3 for 75c.

**BRIDESMAID.** S. White shaded silvery lilac; F. soft lilac, slightly frilled. 25c. 3 for 55c.

**CAPRICE.** 30 inches. S. & F. light purple blending to soft lavender at base of petals. Very fine. 25c. 3 for 55c.

**CHESTER HUNT.** (Farr) S. celestial blue; F. dark marine-blue, bordered pale blue, shading at base; stigmas light blue. 27 inches. 50c. 3 for \$1.20.

**CECIL MINTERN.** Standards and fall uniform shade of rose; light beards. Large. \$5.00.



**CLARENCE WEDGE.** S. heliotrope tinged with yellow with lighter edge; F. purple-red. It has a margin which is light bronze on one side and wider and very light yellow on the other; veined white at the base, and a light line dividing the center. One-half the fall is shaded darker than the other. This peculiarity of the border is characteristic with every fall. Conspicuous orange beard. Glory strain. 40¢. 3 for 85¢.

**CLEMATIS.** 30 inches. S. and F. light violet with the six petals opening horizontally like the clematis. Very fragrant. Unusually fine. \$2.00 each.

**CLUNY.** S. pale lilac blue; F. deeper blue with brown veining at the base. Flowers unusually large. A most beautiful variety. Early. One of the best of the new varieties. 38 inches. \$3.00 each.

**CORDELIA.** S. rosy lilac; F. velvety crimson, edged rose. Exceptionally beautiful. 24 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**DARIUS.** S. rich canary-yellow; F. lilac, margined white, with rich orange beard. One of the most distinct and beautiful. 20 inches. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**DR. BERNICE.** S. Coppery bronze; F. velvety crimson; very large and beautiful. 2 feet. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**DEJAZET.** S. bronze rose with golden sheen; F. reddish velvet, the whole beautifully blended. A large broad flower. Late. 24 inches. \$2.75.

**DIMITY.** S. white, slightly veined and penciled mauve; F. wide, long and spreading slightly veined with lavender on the upper half. Very distinct. Midseason. 36 inches. \$5.00.

**DOMINION.** 32 inches. Late. S. rich blue; F. deep velvety, indigo purple. Orange beard. This is the most wonderful of all Iris to date. Petals are of wonderful substance. Form of flower unexcelled and added to this is an intensity of coloring not found in any other large Iris. Wonderful. \$25.00 each.

**DOROTHEA.** Milky white, tinged lilac, early, very profuse blooming sort. When in bloom resembles very much a double Japanese Iris. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**ELDORADO.** S. yellowish bronze, shaded with heliotrope; F. bright purple shaded bronze. A most beautiful and pleasing combination of color. 40¢. 3 for \$1.00.

**ERICH.** S. bright, light purple, flushed rose (190-2); F. bright violet-purple (198-1); large; wide standards and falls; fragrant. 36 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**FAIRY.** 36 inches high. A wonderful iris. White, petals bordered and suffused with the faintest tracings of the most delicate blue. A dream. 25¢. 3 for 65¢.

**FLAVESCENS.** 30 inches. Midseason. S. cream color; F. a slightly deeper yellow. This is one of the most satisfactory of all iris. It may not have the delicate beauty of some, but it is strong, healthy and robust, and always with you. Always does well. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**FLORENTINA ALBA.** 30 inches. Very early S. white; F. white, tinted porcelain. A large, beautiful and very fragrant flower. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**FREDERICK.** S. pale lavender; F. lavender barred with brown. Very free. One of the most effective for massing. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**FRYER'S GLORY.** S. golden bronze tinged with crimson; F. bright velvety maroon, veined light yellow from center to base. Orange beard. \$2.00.

**GAGUS.** A. M., R.H.S. S. light, clear yellow; F. crimson, reticulated white and yellow with narrow yellow border. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**GERTRUDE.** 34 inches. S. and F. same shade rare violet blue. Unexcelled for house decoration where a clear uniform shade is desired. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**GOLDEN PLUME.** S. rich golden yellow; F. chestnut brown, edged and reticulated yellow. Yellow beard. This is an improved Honorabilis. The plant is equally as thrifty and is a few inches taller and very even height when in bloom. This is the variety that Mr. Wedge spoke so highly of after seeing it in bloom last season. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**GREVIN.** S. violet with yellow shadings; F. dark violet with bright yellow veining. Late 26 inches. Each \$3.00.

**G. W. PEAKE.** S. yellow shaded crimson-bronze, lighter yellow at base; F. velvety maroon red, edged with bronze-yellow, reticulated at base. Conspicuous orange beard. Fragrant. Glory strain. 60¢. 3 for \$1.35.

**HER MAJESTY.** 32 inches. Late. S. soft rose; F. red, deeply veined. An extra fine variety, the general color effect of which is pink. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**HIAWATHA.** S. pale lavender, flushed rose; F. royal purple, bordered lavender. 28 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**HUGO.** S. petunia-violet (190-3); F. deep purple (195-2); wide spreading flower. 33 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**IGNATIA.** 30 inches. Midseason. S. and F. a delicate blue. This is another of the very robust. Always a faithful variety, even under the most trying conditions. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**IROQUOIS.** S. smoky lavender, dotted brown; F. black-maroon, reticulated white at base; tall and striking. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**ISOLENE.** 36 inches. S. silvery lilac, 4 inches long; falls three and three-quarters inches long, and of the most beautiful mauve color. One of the most beautiful of all iris. 40¢. 3 for \$1.00.

**JOHAN DE WITTE.** 24 inches. Midseason. S. bluish violet; F. deep purple, veined white. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**JAMES BOYD.** S. clear light blue; F. dark violet tipped and edged lighter. A very large flower with a dome-shaped center. 30 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**JUANITA.** (Farr) S. and F. clear blue, deeper than Dalmatica. Tallest of bearded irises. Large fragrant flowers. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**KOCHII.** S. and F. both of the deepest richest purple. One of the very darkest of all iris. Should be in every collection. 24 inches. 30¢. 3 for 75¢.

**LENT A. WILLIAMSON.** 42 inches. Early S. very broad, soft violet; F. very large velvety royal purple. Brilliant gold beard. Massive. An American iris that ranks first. \$2.50.

**LOHENGRIN.** 32 inches. S. and F. soft mauve, shading nearly to white. A very tall strong growing variety with wide leaves.

One of the best of the Pallidas. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**LORELY.** S. canary yellow; F. creamy white with purple reticulation, blending into purple blotches near the edges. Ends of petals bordered deep canary. Fine. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**MAGNIFICA.** S. light violet blue. F. dark reddish violet. The flowers are extraordinarily large, six inches long and sweet scented. This is a very strong growing kind. Midseason. 44 inches. Each \$5.00.

**MA MIE.** S. pure white frilled lavender; F. pure white penciled and margined lavender. An improved Mad. Chereau. Midseason. 38 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**MADAM CHEREAU.** 42 inches. Midseason. S. and F. pure white with clear frilled lavender edge. This is undoubtedly the best to date of the frilled varieties. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**MARY GARDEN.** (Farr.) S. pale yellow, flushed pale lavender; F. cream-white, minutely dotted and veined maroon; stigmas clear yellow. 28 inches. 50¢. 3 for 75¢.

**MASSASOIT.** (Farr 1916.) S. and F. a very distinct shade of metallic, Venetian blue, quite difficult to describe accurately. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**MEDRANO.** F. a beautiful dark smoky red wine color. Unusual. Flowers large, early. 26 inches. \$4.00.

**MOLIERE.** S. dark violet; F. darker violet veined brown. Yellow beard. Early. 28 inches. \$4.00.

**MISS EARDLEY.** S. golden yellow; F. rich red with yellow; a beautiful and distinct new variety. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**MONSIGNOR.** 28 inches. Late. S. richest satiny velvet; F. deep purple-crimson. Very large and one of the very best. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**MRS. ALAN GRAY.** One of the most beautiful of iris. General color effect pink. Very fine for massing. Often gives a second crop of bloom in August. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**MRS. A. M. BRAND.** S. large erect white; F. white, slightly veined violet. Conspicuous orange beard. Fragrant. 30 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.25.

**MRS. H. DARWIN.** 28 inches. S. pure white; F. white, slightly veined. One of the best of whites. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**MRS. NEUBRONNER.** 28 inches. S. and F. rich, clear, golden-yellow. The best all yellow. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**MRS. S. H. SMITH.** S. rich golden yellow; F. same color, shaded light yellow in center, and veined dark yellow. Yellow beard. 24 inches. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**MRS. W. E. FRYER.** S. white, shaded heliotrope; F. purple-crimson; bordered a lighter shade; white veins from center to base. Orange beard. 32 inches. \$1.50.

**NAVAJO.** (Farr.) S. light bronzy yellow, shaded lavender; F. deep maroon, heavily veined white and yellow; stigmas yellow; deep orange beard. Fragrant. 30 inches full. 20 inches. \$1.00. 3 for \$2.40.

**NAZARINE.** One of the very choice iris. Each \$10.00.

**NEPTUNE.** Midseason. S. bright pale blue. F. rich purple blue. The tall branching habit sets off finely its large flowers and wide spreading falls. Each \$2.50.



**NIEBELUNGEN.** S. fawn yellow; F. violet purple with fawn margin. One of the very best iris in its class. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**NOKOMIS.** S. pale lavender-white; F. velvety dark violet-blue, bordered white. Medium-sized flowers. Tall growing, free blooming. 35¢. 3 for \$1.00.

**OSSIAN.** S. canary yellow; F. soft rose red deeply veined; this is one of the most showy iris of its class. Distinctly different. Tall, velvety purple. A handsome clean-cut iris. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**PALLIDA DALMATICA.** One of the finest of the Germanica type. Plant strong habit, often growing four feet high, with very large flowers. S. delicate lavender; F. lavender-shaded blue. Fine for massing. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**PARC DE NEUILLY.** S. and F. navy blue of reddish tinge, with an everchanging effect. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**PARISIANA.** S. mottled lavender pink; F. creamy white center. Very heavily bordered with lavender pink. 28 inches. One of the striking iris. 30¢. 3 for 75¢.

**PAULINE.** S. and F. unusually large, rich pansy-violet; deep orange beard. Fragrant 3 feet. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**PAXATAWNEY.** Standards pale parma-violet, slightly suffused sulphur-yellow, deepening at the base; falls darker, with brown and yellow reticulation; very large flowered. 36 inches. 75¢. 3 for \$1.75.

**PERFECTION.** 30 inches. Midseason. S. lavender, flecked with deeper shade; F. rich velvety lavender. A very fine iris. Has a wonderful amount of bloom to the stalk. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**POWHATAN.** (Farr.) (Syn. Aurora.) S. light bishop-violet with deeper border; F. deep purple, shaded crimson. Large, horizontal spreading flower. 38 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**PRINCESS VICTORIA LOUISE.** S. sulphur-yellow; F. rich plum, bordered cream. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**PROSPER LAUGIER.** 30 inches. S. fiery bronze; F. velvety ruby purple. Of all the standard varieties this is undoubtedly the most striking and distinct. Very fine. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**QUAKER LADY.** S. smoky lavender, with yellow shadings; F. ageratum-blue and old gold; stigmas yellow; yellow beard. 38 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**QUEEN OF MAY.** S. and F. a soft rose lilac, almost pink. A beautiful tall growing variety. 32 inches. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**OTHELLO.** S. rich blue; F. deep dark velvety at base; F. reddish purple, light yellow. Orange beard. Fragrant. Very free bloomer, and one of the best of plants. 28 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**RAFFET.** S. and F. a uniform dark blue. Falls striped at base with white. Yellow beard. Late. 28 inches. \$3.00.

**RINGDOVE.** New. A free-flowering variety which produces its beautiful flowers on stems 4 feet high. S. pale violet; F. slightly darker, with a distinctly slightly darker ring at the throat. \$2.00.

**REV. A. H. WIRTELE.** S. purple-bronze; F. rich velvety royal purple, lighter at the edge reticulated light yellow at the base, and veined brown. Yellow beard. Fragrant. 18 inches. 75¢. 3 for \$1.75.

**RHEIN NIXE.** S. pure white; F. raspberry purple, edged white. A splendid grower that is always to be depended on. One of the finest and most striking in the whole list. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**ROSE UNIQUE.** S. and F. delicate blush rose. A very early flowering iris much admired by everybody who sees it. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**RUBELLA.** S. rose-lilac; F. crimson purple, 3 feet. 25¢. 3 for 55¢.

**SAPPHO.** S. white-frilled lilac; F. pure white reticulated lilac at base. 35¢. 3 for 75¢.

**SEMINOLE.** S. soft violet rose; F. rich velvety crimson. Brilliant orange beard. Midseason. 28 inches. \$2.50.

**"SHERWIN-WRIGHT".** Golden yellow. In this grand novelty we have what has long been wanted, a good vigorous growing, free-flowering, golden yellow Iris Germanica, the few yellow sorts now in commerce being deficient in these important characteristics. The plants grow about two feet high; the flowers, which are produced in lavish profusion, are of splendid texture and stand well above the foliage, and are of a rich golden yellow without markings or shadings. 25¢. 3 for 65¢.

**SHREWSBURY.** S. rosy bronze; F. violet-purple, with lighter shading; the conspicuous heavy orange beard forms a brilliant contrast with the other colors; a striking variety. 50¢. 3 for \$1.25.

**SWATARA.** Lobelia-blue, suffused bronzy

yellow at base; F. bright violet with conspicuous orange beard. Large flower. 36 inches. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**SOUVENIR de Mme. GAUDICHAU.** 42 inches. Early. S. and F. rich deep purple bicolor. One of the richest in coloring of all irises. Large and free blooming. \$7.00.

**TECUMSEH.** S. clouded buff; F. smoky violet, yellow border, crimson spathe valves. Three feet. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**THE INCA.** (Farr.) Midseason. S. clear deep sagon yellow; F. velvety dark plum-edged golden band through center; golden reticulation at base. Improved pfauenau. \$5.00.

**TINAE.** Deep blue, shaded lilac. Fine, large flower. 40 inches. 25¢. 3 for 65¢.

**VIRGINIA MOORE.** 34 inches. S. and F. "yellow self, identical in color with the lemon lily." A very new variety. \$2.00.

**TRIANON.** S. yellow; F. yellow with bluish reflections. A vigorous grower and very floriferous. Late. 28 inches. \$3.50.

**TURCO.** S. lilac rose; F. deep yellow washed with blue. Color very clear and attractive. Late. 30 inches. \$3.50.

**VIOLET QUEEN.** S. violet-blue; F. violet-black. 2 feet. 3 for 55¢.

**W. F. CHRISTMAN.** S. white, tinged violet, while some are flaked and reticulated with violet on inner sides; F. purple, reticulated white, with light border. Yellow beard. Fragrant. 22 inches. Fraa bloomer, and very even height when in bloom. 75¢. 3 for \$1.75.

**WYOMISSING.** S. creamy white, suffused delicate soft rose; F. deep rose base, shading to flesh-colored border. 75¢. 3 for \$1.75.

**WHITE KNIGHT.** A beautiful, absolutely snow-white iris, without markings of any kind; delicately sweet-scented. Similar in habit and form to the rare variety of Black Knight, with which it forms a striking contrast. 18 inches. 75¢. 3 for \$2.00.

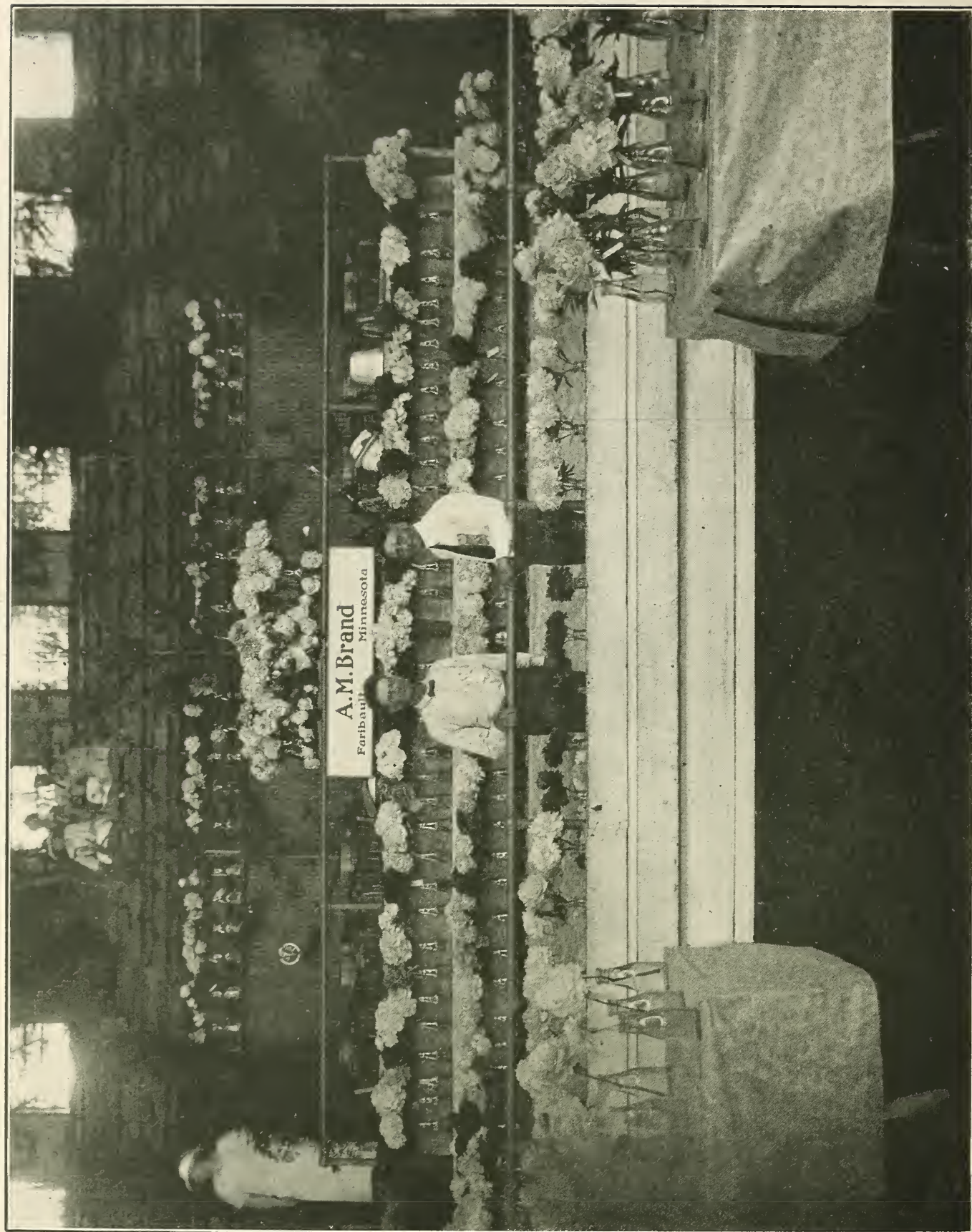
**ZANARDALIA.** Bright light blue. S. somewhat darker than F.; F. horizontal. We consider this one of the very best blue irises. 50¢. 3 for \$1.20.

**ZUA.** Dwarfish in habit producing large well developed blooms. In color, similar to Florentine Alba except the edges of the petals are beautifully ruffled. \$2.00.



Another Field of Iris





BRAND PEONY FARMS' BOOTH  
1923 American Peony Society Show, St. Paul, Minn.



## The St. Paul Peony Show

The American Peony Society held its 1923 show, as all members of the Society of course know, at St. Paul, Minnesota. But what all members of the Society do not know is the fact that this Show was in all respects far and away the greatest Show ever put on by the Society. The credit for its success must be given to our very able and genial corresponding secretary, Mr. W. F. Christman, and the very able assistants he chose to work with him.

The Show was held on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of June in the immense Hippodrome building of the Minnesota State Fair Grounds half way between the Twin Cities, St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The immense building was entirely filled with flowers, it

being estimated that between fifty and sixty thousand peony blooms went to make up the different displays and exhibits.

With few exceptions, all the great peony growers of the country were there; the most of them bringing exhibits. Mr. Donohue brought a very creditable exhibit all the way from Newton Lower Falls, Massachusetts. The Thurlows brought an iced car, the floor of which was covered with tubs filled with open blooms which arrived in remarkably fine condition. Both of these Massachusetts growers are to be congratulated upon the fine showings which they made. Fine flowers came from Ohio, Illinois, and Wisconsin and from all of the many growers in Minnesota. We took to this Show two car loads of bloom.

### Society's Gold Medal

The greatest class of the Show is Class One, open to all. This Class called for an exhibit of not more than one hundred varieties, one bloom of a variety, all double. The first prize in this Class is fifty dollars and the winner is awarded the Society's Gold Medal. In this class, the first prize and the Society's Gold Medal went to the Brand Peony Farms. The judges making the award were Mr. Farr of Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, Mr. Little of Goodland, Indiana, and Mr. Schwartz of Washington, D. C.

The judges in making the award stated it was made solely on the quality of the blooms shown as all competing exhibitors had more varieties in their exhibits than we. And most remarkable of all, thirty-three of the eighty-two varieties in our exhibit were originated by us. It might be of interest to know what varieties this exhibit consisted of, so we are pleased to submit the list.

It will be noticed upon reading the names of the Brand Varieties in the exhibit that many of them were our newest named seedlings.

#### BRAND VARIETIES

Frances Willard  
Mary Brand

Moses Hull  
Faribault

Phoebe Carey  
Shenandoah

#### BRAND VARIETIES—Continued

Ben Franklin  
Archie Brand  
Fanny Crosby  
Brand's Magnificent  
E. B. Browning  
Longfellow  
Midnight  
Hazel Kinney  
Chas. McKellip  
Judge Berry

Victory Chateau  
Thierry  
Louisa Brand  
Lora Dexheimer  
Old Silver Tip  
David Harum  
H. F. Reddick  
Mrs. F. A. Goodrich  
Chestine Gowdy  
Helen Wolaver

Mrs. Archie M. Brand  
Ella Christianson  
Mrs. A. M. Brand  
Martha Bulloch  
Myrtle Gentry  
Mrs. Frank Beach  
Mrs. Romaine B. Ware  
Florence Nightingale

#### OTHER VARIETIES

Perfection  
Festiva Maxima  
Gismonde  
Asa Gray  
Milton Hill  
Marie Crousse  
Claire Dubois  
Reine Hortense  
Kelway's Queen  
La France  
Mons. Martin Cahuzac  
Opal  
Model de Perfection  
Mme. Emile Galle  
Eugenie Verdier  
Modeste Guerin

Adolphe Rosseau  
Rosuette  
Koenig's Winter  
Lady Duff  
Mme. Jules Dessert  
Mons. B. LePaige  
Auguste Villaume  
Felix Crousse  
Lamartine  
Mons. Dupont  
James Kelway  
Therese  
Marchal Valliant  
Mireille  
Sully Prudhomme  
Cornelia Shaylor  
Pierre Ducharte

Grace Loomis  
Enchantress  
Marie Lemoine  
Livingstone  
Couronne D'Or  
Mme. Emile Lemoine  
Karl Rosenfield  
Georgiana Shaylor  
Sarah Bernhardt  
Kelway's Glorious  
Solange  
Rosa Bonheur  
Tourangelle  
Evening Glow  
Octavie Demay  
Mme. de Galhau

### Our New Seedlings

We honestly believe that never before has there been displayed by a single originator so many strictly first class new peonies of his own origination as were shown by us at this show.

We displayed 22 named and unnamed new seedlings, the stock of which is not yet on the market. These seedlings were mostly whites and light pinks of the largest size and the finest quality. No money prize is awarded a seedling by the Society, the highest award being the Society's Gold Medal, then its Silver Medal and Awards of Merit. In spite of the fact that there were other large exhibits of seedlings, all of these awards went to Brand seedlings. The judges awarded the Gold Medal to our wonderful white seedling, Mrs. A. M. Brand, the Silver Medal to our Myrtle Gentry a beautiful cream pink. The two awards of merit went to Luverne Christman, an immense frilled pink and a wonderful show flower, and the other to a beautiful white seedling shown under number. Throughout the entire show these seedlings were the center of attraction. Admiring crowds were always to be seen around this table. During the second afternoon of the

Show we offered roots of the different seedlings for sale at the uniform price of \$50.00 each. During the three hours we were selling, Miss Gentry and I booked orders totaling over \$5,000 at these prices, delivery to be made in the fall of 1925. This fact will give a good idea of the quality of these new flowers.

We will continue to book orders for these new seedlings for 1925 delivery at the uniform price of \$50.00 per root until our surplus stock is exhausted. They are all so good that we hesitate to say which are the best and which the poorest. It would be a most difficult thing to do. They are all worth the price.

**MRS. A. M. BRAND** which received the Gold Medal is an absolutely pure white of immense size and having splendid stem and foliage.

**MYRTLE GENTRY**, the Silver Medal winner, is a broad petaled, very fragrant flower of a peculiar creamy shade of pink all its own.

**LAVERNE CHRISTMAN**, named after the little daughter of Secretary Christman, received an Award of Merit. The three large blooms of this variety with their frilled pink petals attracted much attention.

**HANSINA BRAND** is another great pink that comes just perfect every year. It is beautiful in both color and form and of the



true rose type. It received an Award of Merit at the London Show last year. We first called this variety Mrs. Archie M. Brand but changed the name so as not to confuse it with Mrs. A. M. Brand.

MRS. FRANK BEACH was also represented by a beautiful vase of large pure creamy white blooms. This is a wonderful field flower, showing up to better advantage on the plant than in the show room. It received an Award of Merit at London, Ontario, last year also.

ELLA CHRISTIANSEN was represented by a most remarkable vase of very large pink blooms. This flower is a wonderful performer in the field and stands up especially fine in the sun.

MRS. JOHN M. KLEITSCH on the second day of the show was in perfection. During the latter part of that day and all of the

third day it was a most remarkable and beautiful flower of a beautiful pink.

HAZEL KINNEY was shown in splendid form. This is a most beautiful flower. It is of good size and of a delicate and uniform Hydrangea pink.

MRS. F. A. GOODRICH is an extra large full flower with broad petals. A splendid great bud of this was shown in Class One and three full opened blooms in the seedling class. It is a flower that will bear watching.

MRS. ROMAINE B. WARE is a peculiarly beautiful flower. The bloom, as you look down upon it, has a peculiar oval form that, combined with the ruffled appearance of the petal gives it a very pleasing appearance.

Many other seedlings were shown under number.

## Unsolicited Expressions of Approval

Our business has quadrupled in the last four years. Our success, we feel, is largely due to the kind words of our customers. Some of them have written us of their satisfaction with our stock and our business methods.

Madison, Wis.: *I want to express my sincere appreciation for the very kind consideration you gave my order. I am delighted with your selection and the splendid plants sent were, to say the least, highly gratifying. I am almost tempted to send you \$25.00 for another selection.*

Louisville, Ky.: *I wish to thank you very kindly for your promptness in shipping these peonies, and wish to further advise you that they were received in splendid condition and proved to be very satisfactory indeed. I had a local florist set them out for me and he advised me that they were splendid roots.*

Portland, Ore.: *The peony roots I ordered from you arrived all O. K., and I am delighted with the quality of them. It is a long way from Portland, Ore., to Faribault, Minnesota, and I like to favor local dealers whenever possible, but after comparing the roots from you with those I have had heretofore, it is no wonder "why girls leave home."*

Collingswood, N. J.: *I received from you last October eleven peony divisions as per order sent you. The roots were fine and in good condition when received. I enclose snap-shot of a part of them showing how they have developed. All of the eleven are in fine shape and nine of them have bloomed, which I did not expect this first season.*

Chicago, Ill.: *I am writing to thank you for the nice strong, healthy peony roots you sent me and also to tell you how well pleased my friend was. She said she had never bought such nice roots anywhere, and said she would want more next year. All the peonies were received in fine condition, and I thank Joe B. for packing so well.*

(This leads me to remark that "Joe B." Joe Burkhardt-meyer boxes all our peony roots. He has done so these last 10 years, and I assure you he knows how.—A. M. BRAND.)

Washington, Pa.: *Find enclosed check to cover postage on peonies which were received in excellent condition. I have bought peonies from several of the leading growers, but the roots which you sent were the finest I ever received.*

Duluth, Minn.: *I am very much pleased indeed with the roots and found them all very satisfactory and much larger than I anticipated in view of the fact that they are all expensive varieties.*

We are passing on in our catalog a few of these unsolicited testimonials. We wish to thank all who by their appreciative words have helped to make our business both pleasanter and more profitable.

Chili, Ind.: *Your peonies arrived in excellent shape, not one in the entire collection was damaged in transit, and also I consider this deal the best I ever had shipped to me, and words are very inadequate to express my appreciation towards your treatment to satisfy me.*

Now, Mr. Brand, as long as quality reaches me like it did in my first consignment, I want always to give you my peony orders, which may not be so many, but I want something that will hold the passerby spellbound, and I believe by coming to you for the collection I can realize my goal if I take the best care of what I ordered.

Nashville, Tenn.: *The main cause of my writing you this letter is to tell you that I have not had any experience growing or buying peonies until this fall. I ordered some peony roots from another grower, but not as many as I ordered from you, and for this I certainly feel thankful. While it is true that I paid you a little more for the roots I ordered, there is no comparison as to size and appearance. As a matter of fact, it would be foolish to attempt a comparison at all. This brings me to what I wanted to tell you. I feel that you gave me not only better roots than I had any reason to expect, while in the other case I did not get anything like what I had reason to expect. I appreciate your doing this, and thank you for sending the extra root. When I again have occasion to order peony roots I certainly will send you the order, and if I can influence my friends they will do the same.*

Woodbridge, Conn.: *The order of peonies came safely to New Haven, and words cannot express my gratitude to you. How pleased I was on opening the box. They were packed so well, and such fine large roots, and so clean and healthy.*

Spokane, Wash.: *I received the first order O. K. and they are the finest lot of peonies that I have ever received from any source, and I wish now I had got in touch with you years ago.*

Lancaster, Penn.: *The peony roots which you sent on the 12th inst. were received on the evening of the 16th in good condition. They showed careful packing, and were nice, fresh, strong, healthy-looking roots. Am very much pleased with them. I thank you very much for the extra one. These are such strong, healthy roots and are the best I have ever received.*



## Article Prepared for the Bulletin of Peony News

Discharged from the Union Army for permanent disability, my father returned to Wisconsin in 1863. Impaired health kept him from working for some time. But it was not long after the close of the Civil War before he engaged in the sale of nursery stock and the nursery business became his life work.

Removing to Minnesota in 1867, after several moves he finally settled down upon those grounds which now for over fifty years have been devoted to the general nursery business.

For the first twenty-seven years as a nurseryman he spent much of his time, at first afoot, but later on with horse and buggy, traveling over the state selling nursery stock. In this way during the many months of June that he was on the road he ran across quite a number of good peonies blossoming in the gardens of the many good farm wives where he stopped.

The Minnesota climate produces wonderful peonies. Cool, moist fore parts of June when the peony blooms with us, are the rule. These conditions are ideal for the flower, and with us the peony is surely the flower of flowers.

As my father found a good sort in his travels here and there he purchased it and in time in this way acquired quite a collection. Thus *Fragrans*, *Whitley*, *Delicatissima*, *Festiva Maxima*, *Humei*, *Delachei*, *Edulis Superba*, and many other sorts of like quality came to us.

As I grew up, I followed in my father's footsteps and traveled with horse and buggy over the prairies and through the great woods of Minnesota selling nursery stock. And I, too, was ever upon the lookout among the great plants of peonies I so often saw for some variety we did not have at home. I remember very well first beholding a great root of *Rubra Officinalis* in full bloom during one cold, very damp June. I thought I had never seen such a flower. I purchased the root at five dollars, which was about all the money I had at that time. In September I travelled eighty miles to dig and bring home that one peony root.

In 1889, I think it was, my father purchased of Ellwanger & Barry a dozen varieties which he selected from their catalog, and when these sorts bloomed, from that time on he was under the spell of this wonderful flower. After that time his collection rapidly increased, until by the fall of 1899, as far as number of varieties was concerned he had one of the greatest collections in America.

Father was the pioneer nurseryman of Minnesota. His early days in the nursery business were those years when the horticulture of Minnesota was passing through the experimental stages. All varieties had to be tested out for hardiness, and most varieties were found wanting. He gave much of his time searching for varieties of apples suitable for our climate, and finally came to the conclusion that a satisfactory stock for Minnesota could be produced only by growing quantities of seedlings from the hardiest varieties he had, and selecting from these.

Working along these lines, as he did, it was natural that when he once became really interested in the peony, he should try to improve that, as he had the apple.

In the spring of 1899 he had a collection of about three hundred good sorts, the best he could acquire. These were planted in four different beds, most of the varieties running about three large plants to the variety. In this collection were about twenty choice singles. No hand pollenizing was done. The bees and wind attended to that. That fall seed

was saved from the entire lot, and late in the fall planted. This seed being allowed to dry did not germinate until the spring of 1901. In June, 1902, two plants blossomed.

Growers of peony seedlings may question this statement; and we must acknowledge we ourselves have never since secured such results. We account for them by these facts: The seeds were planted four inches apart in rows which were  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart. The plants could thus develop and bloom without any transplanting. As quick as the seeds germinated the plants were given intensive cultivation with horse and cultivator. The soil was very rich. These conditions produced a wonderful growth the year of germination and the yearling plants at the end of the first growing season were as large as the average three-year seedling under the usual methods of handling.

The next season, that of 1903, the seedlings came strong and robust and almost all of them bloomed. This was a very wonderful sight. The world's most beautiful flower bed is a bed of well-cared-for seedlings in full bloom. Each plant is crowned with wondrous large flowers, and the blooms of each plant are different than those of all of its neighbors. Were the bed to contain a hundred thousand roots no two of these would produce blooms exactly alike. All would be different from one another.

This season of 1903 to us was truly a feast of flowers. We checked and rechecked that bed of seedlings continuously it seemed from the time the first kind opened until the last faded petals fell. We were in it with the coming of the sun, during the heat of noontide, and until dark.

From the thousands of seedlings in this bed we selected about forty as worthy of trial. These were divided in September and planted out for further trial. All the balance of the doubles of this seed bed were lifted that same September, divided, planted out, and staked, that we might not by accident have classed as poor some variety that afterwards we would wish to keep. From this lot of seedlings at first classified as second grade I have since selected four very fine varieties.

From the forty selected as good in the first place after years of testing we finally find that we have about ten very choice sorts.

Judgment can hardly be passed upon a new seedling inside of ten years after the planting of the seed. A new peony to be of value must in the first place possess great beauty; its habit of growth must be good; it must be a profuse bloomer; it must do well on many soils and in many different localities; and all of these things must come true every year. It takes fully ten years to test these things out. This is the test we give all our seedlings.

This first bed has given us such sorts as Archie Brand, Charles McKellip, Chestine Gowdy, E. B. Browning, Frances Willard, Henry Avery, Judge Berry, Longfellow, Lora Dexheimer, Mary Brand, Martha Bulloch, Phoebe Carey, Richard Carvel, and William Penn.

The results have been so gratifying to us that we have been compelled to keep on planting seed. And so now each year we plant from a quart to a peck of carefully selected seed; in the fall of 1917 making our largest planting of some sixteen quarts. And by so doing each year, we expect to have new candidates for peony honors coming on continuously in our gardens.

A. M. BRAND.



## My Last Vision of Beauty

*It is a terrible thing to be suddenly stricken blind. My sight gradually faded and then went out altogether. But the last thing on which my vision rested was the most beautiful Peony I ever saw. It was Richard Carvel. In color it was glowing, radiant red, which has made a lasting impression on me. I do not know that my eyes ever rested on a more beautiful flower. It was very remarkable in many respects. Last spring all through the West and Northwest there was a failure of blooms. I had eight of these and they blossomed gloriously. They were planted late in the fall, but not one of them failed. One plant I cut in two and each little root had a fine flower. They were exceedingly fragrant. They were also the earliest I ever knew, coming into bloom May 18th. The rest of them bloomed about the 21st. They were introduced by Mr. Brand. Whether he has any for sale now I do not know. I am sure, however, that the stock is very limited. I consider it the cheapest Peony ever yet offered at \$6.00 each.*

C. S. HARRISON.

York, Neb., July 31st, 1918.



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